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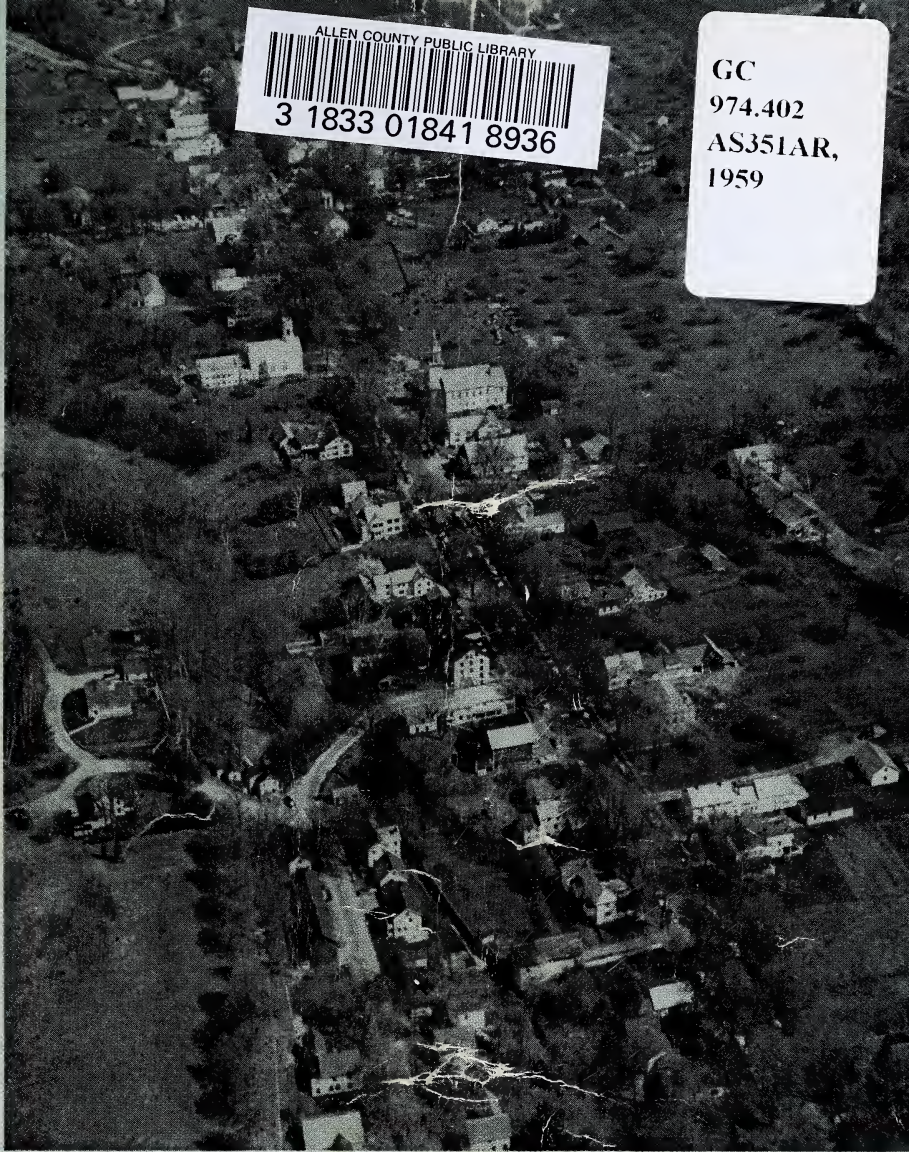
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Annual Report

TOWN OF
ASHFIELD
MASSACHUSETTS

One Hundred Ninety-Fourth

ANNUAL REPORT

1959



ASHFIELD

MASSACHUSETTS

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TOWN OFFICERS

Moderator

DONALD F. HOWES

Clerk and Treasurer

WALTER A. WHITNEY

Selectmen, Assessors, Board of Health and Public Welfare

DONALD W. LILLY	Term Expires 1962
CLIFTON W. SCOTT	Term Expires 1960
HOWARD C. BARNES	Term Expires 1961

School Committee

RALPH E. TOWNSLEY	Term Expires 1961
DOROTHY D. CRAFT	Term Expires 1960
ROBERT A. HARRIS	Term Expires 1962

Library Trustees

DONALD F. HOWES	Term Expires 1960
MARY PRISCILLA HOWES	Term Expires 1961
WALTER A. WHITNEY, JR.	Term Expires 1962
ELMER F. LESURE	Term Expires 1964
DOROTHY GUILFORD	Term Expires 1963

Finance Committee

DONALD W. LILLY	Term Expires 1960
CLIFTON W. SCOTT	Term Expires 1960
HOWARD C. BARNES	Term Expires 1960

Park Commission

HOWARD A. CRANSON	Term Expires 1961
CHARLES W. DAY	Term Expires 1960
JAMIESON S. REID	Term Expires 1962

Tax Collector

GEORGE L. MOWRY	Term Expires 1961
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Constables

NORMAN C. SCOTT	CARL J. DIGE
HOWARD A. CRANSON	

Auditor

GILBERT N. GARDNER

Surveyors

Of Wood

GILBERT N. GARDNER
CLARENCE S. HALL
ERNEST W. TAYLOR

Of Lumber

ALBERT R. KENDRICK
DAVID C. CARTER
GILBERT W. ROBERTS

Fence Viewers

CHARLES C. GRAY

PHILIP R. DAMON

Field Drivers

MALCOLM S. CLARK

LEON C. SEARS

Dog Officer

WILBERT L. RAINVILLE

Tree Warden

GUY R. TANNER

Moth Superintendent

GUY R. TANNER

Superintendent of Schools

ROBERT S. JACKSON

Fire Chief and Forest Fire Warden

HOWARD A. CRANSON

Sealer of Weights and Measures

LEONARD M. UFFORD

Inspector of Meats

DONALD W. LILLY

Inspector of Animals

WILLIAM R. FITZGERALD

Pound Keeper

MALCOLM S. CLARK

Highway Superintendent

A. LINWOOD WILLIAMS

TOWN WARRANT

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Franklin, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Ashfield, in the
County of Franklin, *Greetings:*

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town Affairs, to meet in the Town Hall, in said Ashfield, on Saturday, the fifth day of March next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles:

ART. 1. To choose a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, One Selectman, Assessor and Member of the Board of Public Welfare for three years, One Member of the School Committee for three years, Auditor, Three Constables, Tree Warden, One Library Trustee for five years and One Park Commissioner for three years, all on one ballot and to choose all necessary Town Officers. Polls may be closed at three o'clock.

ART. 2. To act on the reports of the Town Officers.

ART. 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the use of the Tree Warden, or act relative thereto.

ART. 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the Board of Health.

ART. 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds in the treasury, the sum of \$4,500. under Chapter 90. Said money to be used on the Williamsburg Road, the Watson-Spruce Corner Road and the Cummington Road, in conjunction with any money which may be allotted by the State or County, or both, for this purpose, or act relative thereto.

ART. 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500. under Chapter 90 Maintenance. Said money to be used in conjunction with any money which may be allotted by the State or County, or both, for this purpose, or act relative thereto.

ART. 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges for the following departments for the ensuing year. The following sums are recommended by the Finance Committee:

Chapter 81	\$ 3,200.
Winter Roads	
Paid Vacations for Highway Department	300.
Town Dump	400.
Incidentals	350.
Fires and Equipment	1,500.
Town Hall	1,200.
Workmen's Compensation	
Bonds	150.
Office Expense	700.
Bridges and Railings	400.
Printing Town Reports and Ballots	500.
Care of Soldiers' Graves	175.
Inspection of Animals	150.
Inspection of Meats	25.
Elections	250.
Registrars	200.
Town Officers	4,300.
Insurance on Town Buildings	800.
Street Lights	1,152.
Administration of Welfare	840.
General Relief	1,500.
Old Age Assistance	13,000.
Aid to Dependent Children	600.
Disability Assistance	4,000.
Soldiers Relief	2,500.
Western Franklin Veterans Service	
Center, Maintenance	610.
Franklin County Retirement System,	
Maintenance	1,124.25

ART. 8. To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Selectmen as the Finance Committee.

ART. 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1960 and to issue a note or notes, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Sec. 17, Chapter 44 of the General Laws.

ART. 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for Memorial Day, or act relative thereto.

ART. 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to contract with the Ashfield Water Company for the use of hydrants for fire protection and raise and appropriate the sum of \$375. for that purpose.

ART. 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the suppression of Gypsy and Browntail Moths, or act relative thereto.

ART. 13. To see if the Town will vote to accept the list of Rules and Regulations governing the operation and use of the Ashfield Town Park at Great Pond, known as "Ashfield Lake", as listed in the Park Committee report, or act relative thereto.

ART. 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to hire a Life Guard, accredited by the Red Cross, for the Town Beach.

ART. 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the use of the Park Commissioners.

ART. 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to hire a Swimming Instructor for the Town Beach, or act relative thereto.

ART. 17. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the 1959 Machinery Earnings (\$13,406.60) and the unexpended balance of the 1959 Machinery Expense Account (\$991.92) to the 1960 Machinery Expense Account, to be used for the purpose of purchasing, repairing and operating road machinery, or act relative thereto.

ART. 18. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,000. from Overlay Surplus for a Reserve Fund, or act relative thereto.

ART. 19. To see if the Town will vote to accept the List of Jurors as prepared by the Selectmen.

ART. 20. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the 1959 Ambulance Earnings and Gifts (\$300.) and the unex-

pended balance of the 1959 Ambulance Maintenance Fund (\$443.09) to the 1960 Ambulance Maintenance Fund, to be used to maintain, equip and eventually replace the Town Ambulance, or act relative thereto.

ART. 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Surplus Revenue the sum of \$14,000. for the purpose of financing State and County Grants for Chapter 81, Chapter 90 and Chapter 90 Maintenance highway work, reimbursement, when received, to be returned to Surplus Revenue, or act relative thereto.

ART. 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to provide for the Town's share of the expense of the Ashfield-Sunderland-Whately Public Health District, or act relative thereto.

ART. 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$98,769.39 for the support of the Public and Vocational Schools.

ART. 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for Civilian Defense, or act relative thereto.

ART. 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to pay the note and interest due in 1960 on the Grader Loan from the 1960 Machinery Expense Account, or act relative thereto.

ART. 26. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$7,500. to purchase a new Dump Truck for the Highway Department, or act relative thereto.

ART. 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,750. to provide for mapping and the professional appraisal of all real estate in Ashfield, or act relative thereto.

ART. 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,100. to provide for the professional appraisal of all buildings in Ashfield, or act relative thereto.

ART. 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$450. for fluorescent lights in the present 7th grade room, or act relative thereto.

ART. 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$450. for a new gas range for the hot lunch program, or act relative thereto.

ART. 31. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Zoning Ordinance as printed in the Town Report, or act relative thereto.

ART. 32. (PETITION) To see if the Town will vote to separate the Office of Assessor from that of Selectmen and Board of Public Welfare. This change to be effective and three (3) Assessors elected at the Town Meeting in 1961. One assessor to be elected for a term of one (1) year. A second assessor for a term of two (2) years and a third assessor for a term of three (3) years.

ART. 33. (PETITION) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) per year for the payment of each assessor. This sum to be taken from the salary paid for the present combination, Selectmen, Assessor Office.

ART. 34. (PETITION) To see if the Town will vote to make the Highway Superintendent an elective office and to make such office a three (3) year term effective on the first day of the month following the month in which Town Meeting is held in 1961.

DONALD W. LILLY,
CLIFTON W. SCOTT,
HOWARD C. BARNES,

Selectmen of Ashfield.

NOTE:—This warrant appears as a matter of information: the Official Warrant may contain changes and/or additions.

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand January 1, 1959 \$ 53,413.74

George L. Mowry, Tax Collector:

1956 Tax	\$ 155.44
Interest	17.18
Costs	.70
1957 Tax	1,076.77
Interest	60.57
Auto Excise Tax	11.65
Interest	1.37
Costs	7.15
1958 Tax	12,496.42
Interest	287.03
Animal Excise Tax	218.41
Auto Excise Tax	1,892.53
Interest	37.44
Costs	166.35
1959 Tax	91,230.77
Interest	29.69
Animal Excise Tax	770.50
Auto Excise Tax	10,715.24
Interest	2.10
Costs	39.75
	<hr/> \$119,217.06

Treasurer of the Commonwealth:

Chapter 90, Williamsburg- Watson (1958)	\$ 9,000.00
Chapter 81 (1958)	19,720.98
Chapter 718	2,000.00
Chapter 90 Maintenance	2,000.00
Chapter 81	4,057.79
Tuition—State Wards	1,189.03
Transportation	8,277.00
Vocational Education (1958)	62.40
Vocational Education	2,381.70
School Aid, Chapter 70	4,297.89
Income Tax	16,991.34
Corporation Tax, Business	6,360.11
Meals Tax, O.A.A.	634.77
Old Age Assistance, U. S. Grant	8,979.00

Aid to Dependent Children,		
U. S. Grant	1,599.00	
Disability Assistance, U. S. Grant	1,723.00	
Old Age Assistance	8,737.74	
Aid to Dependent Children	791.65	
Disability Assistance	1,837.22	
Soldiers Relief	1,046.32	
Hot Lunch Program,		
Reimbursement	3,075.06	
Inspection of Animals	75.00	
Reimbursement for Loss of Taxes	89.78	
Temporary Relief	267.32	
		<hr/> \$105,194.10
County Treasurer:		
Dog Officer Expense	\$ 32.00	
Dog Tax Refund	396.63	
Chapter 90, Williamsburg-Watson	3,000.00	
		<hr/> \$ 3,428.63
Town of Buckland, Tuition & Transportation	\$ 206.77	
Town of Plainfield:		
Tuition	3,520.28	
Use of Machinery	128.80	
Supt. Office Expense	25.56	
Town of Cummington, Supt. Office Expense	25.56	
Town of Goshen, Supt. Office Expense	25.56	
Janet N. Wetterwald, Tuition	109.86	
School Activities	537.98	
Hot Lunch Collections	8,436.10	
Rent of Town Hall	60.00	
Licenses & Permits	53.00	
Town Clerk - Dog Licenses	366.00	
Machinery Earnings	13,096.30	
Gravel	10.35	
Ambulance Earnings	190.00	
Ambulance Gifts	110.00	
Federal Withholding Tax	11,221.05	
Mass. Withholding Tax	860.95	
Retirement Deductions	1,036.14	
Blue Cross Deductions	1,430.85	
Dept. of Public Works, Snow Removal	181.50	
Fire Insurance, Town Hall Fire	130.00	
Collections of Public Health Nurse	110.75	
Fees of Sealer of Weights & Measures	30.85	
Ashfield Water Co., Tar Patch	29.80	
Eli E. Weeks, Tar Patch	12.00	
Green Meadows Nursing Home, Scraping Drive	21.60	

Raymond H. Reniff - Reimbursement	13.82
Fire Radio Refund	30.50
Eastern States Farmers Exchange, Patronage Dividend	.38
Income of M. M. Belding, Jr., Fund:	
For Park	85.73
For Library	85.73
Income of Cemetery Funds	95.87
Income of Frederick A. Cross Library Fund	151.13
Income of Whiting Street Fund	72.83
Income of Charity Funds	593.10
Sale of Trailer	40.00
Employers' Compensation (Mass. Withholding Tax)	12.88
O. A. A. Recovery	4,200.00
Cancelled O. A. A. Check	7.45
Cancelled Disability Check	4.75
Cancelled Excise Abatement Check	3.21
District Court Fine	10.00
	<hr/>
	\$328,628.52

DISBURSEMENTS

Selectmen's Orders	\$147,821.80
School Committee Orders	91,628.43
School Committee Orders (1958 Bills)	3,993.08
Hot Lunch Orders	11,507.19
School Activities Orders	438.88
Cash Balance	73,239.14
	<hr/>
	\$328,628.52

ASSETS OF THE TOWN

Cash Balance	\$ 73,239.14
Uncollected 1957 Tax	12.18
Uncollected 1958 Tax	214.20
Uncollected 1959 Tax	11,983.53
Uncollected 1959 Farm Animal Excise Tax	132.46
Uncollected 1957 Auto Excise Tax	51.82
Uncollected 1958 Auto Excise Tax	65.00
Uncollected 1959 Auto Excise Tax	2,357.28
Due from the County:	
Dog Officer Expense	12.00
Chapter 90 Maintenance	2,000.00
Chapter 90 Construction	4,000.00

Due from the Commonwealth:	
School Superintendent's Salary	1,396.78
Chapter 90 Construction	8,000.00
Chapter 81	17,667.21
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	\$121,131.60

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN

Shelburne Falls National Bank:	
School Addition Loan	\$ 20,000.00
Grader Loan	2,000.00
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	\$ 22,000.00

TOWN FUNDS, DECEMBER 31, 1959

Susan H. Howes Fund	\$ 565.43
Whiting Street Fund	2,409.86
Henry Taylor Fund	3,985.17
*Major W. King Fund	4,552.56
Salmon Miller Fund	3,997.61
*Eliza Miller Fund	9,198.48
xFrederick A. Cross General Purpose Fund	41,395.74

* These funds each hold \$2,000. (face value) in U. S. Savings Bonds.

x This fund holds \$16,500. (face value) in U. S. Savings Bonds.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER A. WHITNEY,

Town Treasurer.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

1959	Name	Parents
January		
11—	Donna Lee Devine	Walter M. and Rita E. (Dufresne) Devine
11—	Carol Elizabeth Viehmann	Louis J. and Anna (Schwalier) Viehmann
February		
12—	Julie Ann Ward	Norman B. and Helen L. (Barry) Ward
March		
1—	Donna Lee Pearce	Roger A. and Marion B. (Pierce) Pearce
2—	Larry Walton Scott	Roger B. and Bernice E. (Willis) Scott
19—	Robin Elizabeth Phelps	Roger H. and Dorothy E. (Richardson) Phelps
24—	Chester Eugene Chadwick	Frank W. and Eunice A. (Manning) Chadwick
31—	Lester Albert Lawrence	Joseph and Lula J. (Mathewson) Lawrence
April		
1—	David William Graves	Walter M. and Pauline M. (Howes) Graves
7—	Laura Ann Mitchell	John A. and Rollande (Bibeau) Mitchell
25—	Martin Alexander Zalenski	Walter D. and Barbara J. (VanNess) Zalenski
May		
4—	Nancy Ellen Reid	Jamieson S. and Lorraine M. (Williams) Reid
9—	Rian Douglas Ice	Godfrey P. and Barbara A. (Phillips) Ice, Jr.
10—	David Vincent Dufresne	Walter D. and Irene B. (Wiesztort) Dufresne
21—	Katherine Patricia Damon	William H. and Martha J. (Graves) Damon
June		
1—	Donald Herman Burdick, Jr.	Donald H. and Edith L. (Jillson) Burdick
2—	Deborah Lillian Tatro	Lawrence F. and Ellen L. (Ryder) Tatro
10—	David Valliere	Joseph H. and Helen (Kelleher) Valliere
July		
3—	Eugene Patridge Whittier, III	Eugene P. and Lucille (Sage) Whittier, Jr.
10—	Darlene Marie Ouimette	Donald F. and Anne P. (Powers) Ouimette
August		
1—	Willis Donald Burnett	Donald E. and Josephine L. (Anderson) Burnett
16—	John Bullitt Wong	Pao Tee and Ling Ying (Don) Wong

October

24—Richard Arthur Pichette Harold R. and Viola P. (Rivard) Pichette

November

9—Thomas John Zagrubski

Edward A. and Clara (Zalenski) Zagrubski

12—Diane Temple Hall

Robert E. and Dorothy M. (Kaye) Hall

12—Roger Scott Harris

Robert A. and Norma L. (Day) Harris

21—Debra Jean Kendrick

Albert R. and Carol L. (Hanson) Kendrick, Jr.

28—Eric Alan March

Donal and Constance M. (MacIntire) March

December

15—Richard Dean Arabia

Richard D. and Maralyn D. (Graves) Arabia

17—Patricia Mary Trumble

Harold J. and Dorothy M. (Ferron) Trumble

MARRIAGES

1959

January

24—Ronald A. Culver
Ashfield, Mass.

Catherine J. Harrison
Conway, Mass.

March

28—Leonard Gordon Graves
Ashfield, Mass.

Wanda Lorraine Worden
Brattleboro, Vermont

April

5—Albert Roberti
Sandwich, Mass.

Elizabeth Cole
Ashfield, Mass.

25—Stephen E. Doneilo
Ashfield, Mass.

Patricia A. Albec
Buckland, Mass.

May

12—Lawrence D. Allis
Buckland, Mass.

Patricia Neill
Buckland, Mass.

16—Edward J. Crotty, Jr.
Williamsburg, Mass.

Joy Ann Howes
Ashfield, Mass.

20—Carl J. Dige
Ashfield, Mass.

Carrie M. Philbrick
Worthington, Mass.

June

20—Robert James Morrison
Conway, Mass.

Joyce Ann Devine
Ashfield, Mass.

20—David J. McElligott
Ashfield, Mass.

Joyce E. Livingston
Phillipston, Mass.

July

24—Gilbert Wesley Roberts, Jr.
Ashfield, Mass.

Judith Ann Pease
Ashfield, Mass.

August

17—Herbert F. Coursey
Philadelphia, Penna.
29—Deane A. Williams
Ashfield, Mass.

Judith B. Jaimes
Philadelphia, Penna.
Jeanette Samson
Williamsburg, Mass.

September

12—Wesley M. Rice
Plainfield, Mass.

Susan F. Phelps
Ashfield, Mass.

October

8—Harry Roger Pease
Ashfield, Mass.

Brita Ruth Blankenship
Lebanon, Penna.

November

25—Anthony John Purpura, Jr.
Lawrence, Mass.

Jacqueline Steinmetz
Ashfield, Mass.

DEATHS

1959	Name	Yrs.	Mos.	Days
January				
18	Alice Mabel (Knight) Sargent	86	9	9
21	Alma (Shaw) Hathaway	86	11	24
25	Evelyn Lois (Philbrick) Howes	49	2	14
27	Minnie Quinn	86	6	24
March				
14	Mary Lydia (Guynup) Boucher	65	9	18
17	Caroline Blair	82	11	17
24	Annie (Williams) Harris	79	3	23
April				
3	Harvey N. Gardner, Jr.	32	2	25
May				
7	Seymour Harris	76	11	9
17	Antonia Louise (Kozik) Doneilo	89	11	0
29	Clinton H. Gloyd	56	5	11
June				
1	Asenath Elliot Cavitt	76	7	18
July				
2	Harriet (Hinkley) Hall	81	9	21
3	Ira Henry Coffin	78	5	16
22	Irene (Samson) Foote	46	3	7
August				
24	Emma (Packard) Pease	101	2	21

September			
6—Frances (Nesbit) Woods	57	4	16
26—Mildred (Wait) Graves	70	2	3
November			
12—Thomas John Zagrubski	-	-	3
December			
16—Infant Arabia	-	-	2
17—Rosabelle (Elmer) Rice	98	9	14

Bailoting

	<i>Registered Voters</i>	<i>Ballots Cast</i>
Town Meeting, March 7, 1959	545	186

Dog Licenses Issued

1 Kennel	@ \$25.00	\$ 25.00	
3 Kennel	10.00	30.00	
90 Males	2.00	180.00	
13 Females	5.00	65.00	
53 Spayed Females	2.00	106.00	
		<hr/> \$	406.00
Paid Town Treasurer		\$ 366.00	
Fees retained		40.00	
		<hr/> \$	406.00

Fish and Game Licenses Issued

20 Resident Citizen Sporting & Trapping			Free
53 Resident Citizen Fishing	@ \$ 3.25	\$ 172.25	
99 Resident Citizen Hunting	3.25	321.75	
91 Resident Citizen Sporting	5.25	477.75	
18 Resident Citizen Minor Fishing	1.25	22.50	
23 Resident Citizen Female Fishing	2.25	51.75	
1 Resident Citizen Trapping	7.75	7.75	
11 Special Non-Resident Fishing (3 Day)	2.75	30.25	
4 Non-Resident Citizen Fishing	7.75	31.00	
4 Non-Resident Citizen Hunting	15.25	61.00	
4 Duplicate	.50	2.00	
		<hr/> \$	1,178.00
Paid Division of Fisheries and Game		\$ 1,102.00	
Fees retained		76.00	
		<hr/> \$	1,178.00

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER A. WHITNEY,
Town Clerk.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

The Chapter 90 projects progressed favorably during 1959. The bridge on the Watson - Spruce Corner Road, near the farm of Linwood Lesure, using a 9 foot diameter galvanized pipe in place of the original abutment bridge. The road was regraded for a distance of about 400 feet to compensate for the increased height required by the round pipe. Obtaining the fill from Mr. Lesure decreased materially the length of haul and the cost. Slightly more than half of the Chapter 90 fund allotment which remained proved sufficient to complete the fill on the remaining section of Williamsburg Road to the Williamsburg line. This fill also was obtained nearby.

Chapter 90 projects for 1960 include surfacing the final section of Williamsburg Road and the grading and surfacing of the Watson - Spruce Corner Road from the bridge to Spruce Corner. Cummington Road is the next Chapter 90 project authorized by the Department of Public Works. Work has been started at the Cummington end. It is hoped that the first two projects may be completed and this one started during the year.

A new ruling by the State Department of Accounts alters somewhat our method of accounting with respect to charges for the use of town machinery. A 1926 ruling by the Department of Public Works provides for charging for the use of town machinery on work done by the use of Chapters 81 and 90 funds, a part of each being supplied by the State. The same practice has been followed generally by the towns with respect to winter road funds supplied wholly by vote of the town. The new ruling forbids the procedure only with respect to funds supplied wholly by the town. Machinery earnings accumulate for the calendar year and, at the next town meeting, are transferred by vote to the machinery expense account. This fund is then available for the operation and repair of machinery and, if sufficient, for purchase by the Selectmen of small items of equipment or, by vote at town meeting, as part payment on larger purchases. The result will be a winter roads appropriation reduced by the estimated amount that the machinery earnings would have been and the ultimate appropriation of an equal additional amount when new machinery purchases are made. The ultimate cost to the town will be the same. Nothing appears to be gained by the new procedure and, unless the reduced amount of the fund proves insufficient for operation and repair, the chief disadvantage appears to be the inconsistency in accounting procedure.

A small fire in the Town Hall took place, fortunately while the hall was occupied for the high school senior play. The keen sense of smell of one of the lady spectators lead to a prompt investigation. It was discovered that the floor above one of the furnaces had become ignited. The fire was quickly extinguished by the use of indian pumps without disturbing the audience. Later investigation disclosed that the metal lath

had rusted out allowing the plaster and debris from rodents nests to fall on the top of the furnace. The ignition of the dried grass and rags had started the fire. The ceilings over each of the furnaces has been replaced with fireproof asbestos and an extra sheet placed on top of each furnace, thus allowing an air space between. The cost was covered by insurance. Investigation in quest of any other fire hazards lead to the replacement of the top sixteen feet of each of the brick chimneys. Deterioration had been hastened, apparently, by the accumulation of moisture and freezing due to the infrequent use of the furnaces.

Several accidents have occurred at the intersection of routes 112 and 116 near the town barn as the result of which a request has been made to the Department of Public Works to replace the stop signs with a set of flashing signals. In response, they have promised to investigate and consider the matter.

Chapter 81

Appropriation		\$ 3,200.00
State Allotment		21,725.00
Transferred from Reserve		14.56
		<hr/>
		\$ 24,939.56
Superintendent	\$ 1,579.35	
Labor	6,089.80	
Town Equipment	5,779.25	
Hired Equipment	4,207.81	
Gravel & Grits	1,520.01	
Oil, Asphalt & Tar Patch	5,074.02	
Culverts	687.47	
Donald M. Graves, lead pipe & couplings	1.85	
	<hr/>	\$ 24,939.56

Chapter 90 Williamsburg - Watson

Appropriation	\$ 2,000.00
Appropriated from 718 Funds	2,000.00
County Allotment	4,000.00
State Allotment	8,000.00
Transferred from Reserve	.29
	<hr/>
	\$ 16,000.29

Watson

Superintendent	\$ 138.60
Labor	596.40
Town Equipment	416.00
Hired Equipment	1,116.50
Gravel	374.10

Culverts	2,679.54	
James Britton, prints	1.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 5,322.14

Williamsburg

Superintendent	\$ 366.30	
Labor	1,146.60	
Town Equipment	1,775.95	
Hired Equipment	5,730.50	
Gravel	1,319.85	
Culverts	160.32	
Blasting	178.63	
	<hr/>	\$ 10,678.15
		<hr/>
		\$ 16,000.29

Chapter 90 Maintenance

Appropriation	\$ 2,000.00
County Allotment	2,000.00
State Allotment	2,000.00
Transferred from Reserve	.20
	<hr/>
	\$ 6,000.20

Superintendent	\$ 162.53
Labor	984.20
Town Equipment	1,019.25
Hired Equipment	374.75
Tar & Asphalt	2,763.13
Grits & Gravel	696.34
	<hr/>
	\$ 6,000.20

Winter Roads

Appropriation	\$ 11,000.00
Transferred from Reserve	845.80
	<hr/>
	\$ 11,845.80

Superintendent	\$ 1,453.83
Labor	3,387.00
Town Equipment	4,059.50
Hired Equipment	942.35
Salt	1,456.00
Sand	483.00
Bill Willard	64.12
	<hr/>
	\$ 11,845.80

Bridges & Railings

Appropriation	\$ 500.00
Superintendent	\$ 13.20

Labor	33.60		
Town Equipment	3.25		
		<hr/>	\$ 50.05
Unexpended Balance			<hr/> \$ 449.95

Machinery

Transferred from 1958 Earnings			\$ 10,133.84
Superintendent	\$	144.85	
Labor		406.80	
Ashfield Motor Sales		1,468.91	
Reniff's Garage		364.49	
Gas & Oil		2,857.34	
Western Mass. Electric Co.		13.49	
Wirthmore Stores		236.42	
Lawrence Baum		20.31	
Rayem Enterprises		20.00	
C. W. Ward, Inc.		3.20	
Dalton Tractor Co.		24.90	
Eastern Equipment Co.		25.85	
Eastern States Farmers' Exchange		33.83	
Insurance & Registrations		348.64	
Perry Supply Co.		486.32	
Perkins Machine Co.		29.37	
Construction Equipment Co.		451.05	
Grader Loan & Interest		1,068.75	
Braun's Welding Service		169.80	
Wilfred Smith		232.85	
Fines		609.42	
Foster Farrar Co.		14.22	
Brook's Garage		3.50	
Roman Skibiski		52.66	
H. A. Cranson & Son		2.45	
Ashfield Water Co.		7.50	
Cummington Garage		45.00	
		<hr/>	\$ 9,141.92
Unexpended Balance			<hr/> \$ 991.92

Office Expense

Appropriation			\$ 600.00
Transferred from Reserve			6.44
			<hr/> \$ 606.44
Supplies	\$	223.84	
Telephone		109.65	
Postage		183.34	
Printing		43.75	

Typing	10.00	
Photostatic Copies of Deeds	20.40	
Rent of Safe Deposit Box	6.60	
Expense of Land Taking	8.86	
	<hr/>	\$ 606.44

Incidentals

Appropriation		\$ 350.00
Transferred from Reserve		52.40
		<hr/>
		\$ 402.40

Donald W. Lilly, Expenses	\$ 31.86	
Clifton W. Scott, Expenses	20.25	
Howard C. Barnes, Expenses	26.54	
James R. Turner, Fee & Expenses	40.50	
Scraping Green Meadow Drive (Reimbursed)	21.60	
Tar Patch Ashfield Water Co. (Reimbursed)	23.80	
Stoddard, Ball, Bartlett & Trudel	76.75	
Water Rent (Curtis Fountain)	12.50	
Wilbert L. Rainville, Jr., Dog Officer	12.00	
Explorer Pack No. 18, B.S.A.	10.00	
Registry of Deeds	7.60	
Walter A. Whitney, Return of Vital Statistics	68.00	
Walter A. Whitney, Magistrates fees	1.50	
Mass. Collectors & Treasurers Ass'n., Dues	6.00	
Mass. Assessors' Ass'n. Dues	9.00	
Mass. Selectmen's Ass'n. Dues	15.00	
Town Clerks' Ass'n. Dues	7.50	
Franklin County Selectmen's Ass'n. Dues	6.00	
Associated Boards of Health Dues	6.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 402.40

Fires

Appropriation		\$ 1,300.00
Ashfield Motor Sales	\$ 34.40	
Leo J. Burniski, Inc.	165.50	
Land Air Communication Service	9.00	
G. Gilbert Henry, Printing	15.00	
James P. McGrath, Insurance	125.00	
Wirthmore Stores	23.61	
Robert H. Nye	42.41	
H. A. Cranson & Son	27.88	
New England Tel. & Tel.	198.00	
Zabek Fire Apparatus, Inc.	83.05	
Tri-State Mutual Aid	10.00	
Elmer's Store	1.50	

Ashfield Water Co.	6.25	
Pay Roll	308.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,049.60

Unexpended Balance		\$ 250.40
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Nurse

Appropriation		\$ 1,400.00
Transferred from Reserve		243.15

\$ 1,643.15

Salary	\$ 1,096.39	
Mileage	411.84	
Supplies	56.30	
Rent	78.62	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,643.15

Gypsy & Brown Tail Moth Control

Appropriation		\$ 325.00
Transferred from Reserve		16.84

\$ 341.84

Mervin C. Taylor	\$ 291.84	
Guy Tanner	50.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 341.84

Parks

Appropriation		\$ 1,000.00
Transferred from Reserve		10.83

\$ 1,010.83

H. A. Cranson & Son	\$ 259.43	
Roger Pollen	360.97	
Skibiski Farm Supplies	7.00	
Wirthmore Stores	18.83	
Roberts Canvas Co.	197.20	
C. W. Ward, Inc.	37.40	
Willard Haskell	87.00	
Harold Stockwell	26.25	
Lawrence Van Co.	16.75	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,010.83

Life Guard

Appropriation		\$ 900.00
Jacqueline Deveney	\$ 714.50	
Corinne Deveney	50.00	
Karene Deveney	25.00	
Joyce Cranson	25.00	

Willard Haskell	22.50	
	<hr/>	\$ 837.00
Unexpended Balance		\$ 63.00
Swimming Instructor		
Appropriation		\$ 100.00
Jacqueline Deveney	\$ 100.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 100.00
School Heating Plant		
Appropriation		\$ 500.00
H. A. Cranson & Son	\$ 288.92	
Johnson's Service Co.	174.83	
Auto. Oil Heating Co.	36.25	
	<hr/>	\$ 500.00
Elections		
Appropriation		\$ 50.00
Frederick K. Hillman	\$ 12.50	
Philip Damon	12.50	
Norman Nye	12.50	
Ralph Howes	12.50	
	<hr/>	\$ 50.00
Registrars		
Appropriation		\$ 100.00
Donald W. Lilly	\$ 25.00	
Clifton W. Scott	25.00	
Howard C. Barnes	25.00	
Walter A. Whitney	25.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 100.00
Paid Vacations		
Appropriation		\$ 375.00
Donald Tatro	\$ 67.20	
A. Linwood Williams	79.20	
Freeman Whitehouse	67.20	
	<hr/>	\$ 213.60
Unexpended Balance		\$ 161.40
Town Hall		
Appropriation		\$ 1,100.00
Transferred from Reserve		336.16
		<hr/>
		\$ 1,436.16
Godfrey P. Ice, Jr.	\$ 550.00	
Douglas A. Cranson	25.00	
Ashfield Water Co.	12.50	

Western Mass. Electric Co.	227.59	
Commonwealth of Mass. (License)	25.00	
Supplies	28.82	
Maintenance & Repairs	567.25	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,436.16

Tree Warden

Appropriation		\$ 300.00
Guy R. Tanner	\$ 149.45	
Ashfield Motor Sales	5.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 154.45
Unexpended Balance		\$ 145.55

Board of Health

Appropriation		\$ 400.00
Mrs. George H. Coombs	\$ 67.84	
Merritt B. Low, M.D.	200.00	
Roslyn McIntosh	68.48	
	<hr/>	\$ 336.32
Unexpended Balance		\$ 63.68

Inspection of Slaughtering

Appropriation		\$ 25.00
Unexpended Balance		\$ 25.00

Inspection of Animals

Appropriation		\$ 150.00
William R. Fitzgerald, Inspector		\$ 150.00

Ambulance Fund

Transferred from 1958 Earnings & Gifts		\$ 334.70
Transferred from 1958 Maintenance Fund Balance		403.92
		<hr/>
		\$ 738.62
G. Gilbert Henry, Insurance	\$ 192.36	
Elmer's Store	6.39	
Landberg's Service Station	10.43	
Reniff's Garage	86.35	
	<hr/>	\$ 295.53
Unexpended Balance		\$ 443.09

Rent of Hydrants

Appropriation		\$ 250.00
Transferred from Reserve		62.50
		<hr/>
		\$ 312.50
Ashfield Water Co.		\$ 312.50

Dump

Appropriation		\$	150.00
Transferred from Reserve			55.00
		\$	205.00
Raymond Anderson, Bulldozing	\$	130.00	
Dora Pesk, Rent		75.00	
		<hr/>	\$ 205.00

Street Lights

Appropriation		\$	1,152.00
Western Mass. Electric Co.		\$	1,152.00

Civilian Defense

Balance brought forward		\$	143.00
Appropriation			200.00
			<hr/>
		\$	343.00
New England Tel. & Tel.	\$	84.95	
Typing		51.98	
Raymond Reniff, Expenses		16.47	
H. C. Barnes		1.60	
Commonwealth of Mass.		13.82	
		<hr/>	\$ 168.82
Unexpended Balance		\$	174.18

Town Reports & Ballots

Appropriation		\$	450.00
E. A. Hall & Co.		\$	447.90
			<hr/>
Unexpended Balance		\$	2.10

Memorial Day

Appropriation		\$	150.00
Transferred from Reserve			11.50
		\$	161.50
Ammunition	\$	15.00	
Flags		22.50	
Sanderson Academy Band		100.00	
Flowers		9.00	
American Legion Aux., Poppies		15.00	
		<hr/>	\$ 161.50

Care of Soldiers' Graves

Appropriation		\$	175.00
Ashfield Burial Ground Ass'n.		\$	175.00

Bonds			
Appropriation		\$	150.00
Transferred from Reserve			49.40
		<hr/>	
		\$	199.40
Mary Priscilla Howes		\$	199.40
Workmen's Compensation			
Appropriation		\$	1,588.13
Mary Priscilla Howes		\$	1,588.13
Insurance on Town Buildings			
Appropriation		\$	819.32
Mary Priscilla Howes	\$ 400.66		
G. Gilbert Henry	400.66		
	<hr/>		
		\$	801.32
		<hr/>	
Unexpended Balance		\$	18.00
Administration of Welfare			
Appropriation		\$	840.00
Expended		\$	840.00
Veterans' Service Center - Maintenance			
Appropriation		\$	585.00
Expended		\$	585.00
Retirement System - Maintenance			
Appropriation		\$	1,121.10
Expended		\$	1,121.10
Soldiers' Relief			
Appropriation		\$	2,500.00
Transferred from Reserve Fund			29.40
		<hr/>	
		\$	2,529.40
Expended		\$	2,529.40
General Relief			
Appropriation		\$	500.00
Expended		\$ 267.32	
Unexpended Balance		<hr/>	
		\$	232.68
Old Age Assistance			
	Town		
Appropriation		\$	12,000.00
Expended		\$ 11,867.07	
Unexpended Balance		<hr/>	
		\$	132.93

	Federal	
Balance January 1, 1959		\$ 240.09
Received during 1959		8,979.00
		<hr/>
Expended		\$ 9,219.09
Balance December 31, 1959	\$ 8,394.12	<hr/>
		\$ 824.97

Disability Assistance

	Town	
Appropriation		\$ 4,000.00
Expended	\$ 3,368.58	
Unexpended Balance	<hr/>	\$ 631.42
	Federal	
Balance January 1, 1959		\$ 53.72
Cancelled Check		4.75
Received during 1959		1,723.00
		<hr/>
Expended	\$ 1,783.60	\$ 1,781.47
Overdrawn December 31, 1959	<hr/>	\$ -2.13

Aid to Dependent Children

	Town	
Appropriation		\$ 1,000.00
Expended	\$ 297.40	
Balance	<hr/>	\$ 702.60
	Federal	
Balance January 1, 1959 (State Audit)		\$ 800.09
Received during 1959		1,599.00
		<hr/>
Expended	\$ 1,646.30	\$ 2,399.09
Balance	<hr/>	\$ 752.79

Transferred from Reserve Fund

Bonds	\$ 49.40
Memorial Day	11.50
Chapter 90	.29
Chapter 90, Maintenance	.20
Rent of Hydrants	62.50
Chapter 81	14.56
Gypsy Moth	16.84
Parks	10.83

Nurse	243.15	
Dump	55.00	
Town Hall	336.16	
Winter Roads	845.80	
Office Expense	6.44	
Incidentals	52.40	
Soldiers' Relief	29.40	
		<hr/> \$ 1,734.47

SUMMARY OF SELECTMEN'S ORDERS

Winter Roads	\$ 11,845.80
Chapter 81	24,939.56
Chapter 90, Watson & Williamsburg	16,000.29
Chapter 90, Maintenance	6,000.20
Bridges and Railings	50.05
Paid Vacations	213.60
Machinery Expense Account	9,141.92
Town Hall	1,436.16
Town Officers	4,204.44
Registration of Voters	100.00
Office Expense	606.44
Town Reports & Ballots	447.90
Insurance on Town Buildings	801.32
Workmen's Compensation	1,588.13
Incidentals	402.40
School Addition Loan	2,000.00
School Addition Loan Interest	484.00
School Heating System	500.00
General Relief	267.32
Old Age Assistance - Town	11,867.07
Old Age Assistance - Federal	8,394.12
Disability Assistance - Town	3,368.58
Disability Assistance - Federal	1,783.60
Aid to Dependent Children - Town	297.40
Aid to Dependent Children - Federal	1,646.30
Administration of Welfare	840.00
Board of Health	336.32
Charity	643.97
Veterans' Service Center - Administration	585.00
Soldier's Relief	2,529.40
Care of Soldier's Graves	175.00
Nurse	1,643.15
Ambulance Fund	295.53
Fires	1,049.60
Hydrants	312.50

Parks	1,010.83
Dump	205.00
Tree Warden	154.45
Gypsy & Brown Tail Moth Control	341.84
Inspection of Animals	150.00
Civil Defense	168.82
Retirement Systems - Deductions	1,040.79
Retirement Systems - Maintenance	1,121.10
Blue Cross	1,430.85
Withholding Tax	11,624.61
Swimming Instructor	100.00
Life Guard	837.00
Street Lights	1,152.00
County Tax	9,034.19
State Park & Reservation Tax	626.81
Real Estate Tax Abatements	161.00
Dog Licenses	343.00
Memorial Day	161.50
Bonds	199.40
Exercise Abatements	243.55
	<hr/>
	\$147,821.80

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APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1959

Annual Meeting — March 7, 1959

Tree Warden	\$ 300.00
Board of Health	400.00
Chapter 90	2,000.00
Chapter 90, Maintenance	2,000.00
Chapter 81	3,200.00
Winter Roads	11,000.00
Town Dump	150.00
Incidentals	350.00
Fires & Equipment	1,300.00
Town Hall	1,100.00
Workmen's Compensation	1,588.13
Bonds	150.00
Office Expense	600.00
Bridges & Railings	500.00
Printing Town Reports & Ballots	450.00
Care of Soldier's Graves	175.00
Inspection of Animals	150.00
Inspection of Meats	25.00
Elections	50.00
Registrars	100.00

Street Lights	1,152.00 ✓
Town Officers	4,300.00 ✓
Insurance on Town Buildings	819.32
Administration of Welfare	840.00
General Relief	500.00
Old Age Assistance	12,000.00 ✓
Aid to Dependent Children	1,000.00 ✓
Disability Assistance	4,000.00 ✓
Soldiers' Relief	2,500.00 ✓
Veterans' Service Center - Maintenance	585.00
County Retirement System - Maintenance	1,121.10 ✓
Memorial Day	150.00
Rent of Hydrants	250.00
Gypsy & Brown Tail Moth	325.00
Life Guard	900.00
Park	1,000.00
Swimming Instructor	100.00
Paid Vacation for Highway Employees	375.00
Ashfield Share - Nurse District	1,400.00 ✓
1958 School Bills	3,993.08 ✓
Public & Vocational Schools	92,125.00 ✓
School Heating System	500.00
Civilian Defense	200.00
Legion Quarters	144.00
	<hr/> \$155,867.63 ✓

JURY LIST

Dane, George H.	Machinist
Fuller, Nathan W.	Farmer
Guilford, Dorothy	Housewife
Haskell, Willard A.	Retired
Howes, Gladys J.	Housewife
Henry, Lillian	Housewife
Keyes, Harold A.	Farmer
LaBelle, Janice M.	Nurse
Miller, Charles F.	U. S. Navy
Nelson, Ernest S.	Caretaker
Phelps, Hester B.	Housewife
Pease, Howard H.	Retired
Whitehouse, Freeman C.	Truck Driver
Howes, Merton E.	Farmer

BOARD OF ASSESSORS' REPORT

Total Valuation		\$1,474,440.00
Rate of Tax		70.00
Total Tax		103,888.80
Number of Polls Assessed	339	
Number of Horses Assessed	57	
Number of Dairy Animals Assessed (F.A.E.)	1314	
Number of Dairy Animals Assessed (Non Farm)	30	
Number of Bulls & Steers Assessed	37	
Number of Swine Assessed	1	
Number of Sheep Assessed	0	
Number of Fowl & Broilers Assessed	3440	
Motor Vehicle Excise		
Number of Motor Vehicles Assessed	620	
Total Valuation		\$275,590.00
Rate of Taxation		64.13
Total Tax		<u>15,724.30</u>
Abatements on 1959 Excise		<u>1,392.89</u>

SPECIAL NOTICE

Poll Tax exemptions under Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17-A.
Persons over 65 years of age.

Real Estate Tax exemptions under Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17.
Widows, persons over 75 years and Minors.

Applications for exemptions must be filed with the Board of Assessors,
on forms furnished by them, every year as soon as possible after January 1.

Respectfully submitted.

CLIFTON W. SCOTT,
HOWARD C. BARNES,
DONALD W. LILLY,
Assessors of Ashfield.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the books of the Selectmen, Treasurer and Tax Collector and find them correct.

GILBERT N. GARDNER,
Auditor

REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The following is the report of the committee appointed by the Moderator as voted at the 194th annual town meeting to investigate the professional appraisal of real estate for assessment purposes.

GENERAL

A professional appraisal may be had of all real estate including land and buildings, or of buildings only. If appraisal of land is desired, it becomes necessary to provide the assessing firm with complete maps of the town showing boundary lines of each parcel of land.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The J. M. Clemenshaw Co., an appraising firm with headquarters in Cleveland and a branch office in Plainville, Ct., was chosen for information as to the procedures of professional appraising. This company was selected after discussion with the state tax consultant to local assessors of this area. They have appraised the property of 42 cities and towns in Massachusetts.

The mapping concern, Gordon E. Ainsworth & Associates of South Deerfield was consulted for information as to mapping procedures and costs.

A meeting was held also for advice and assistance with Mr. Edmond W. Giblin, Chief of The Massachusetts Bureau of Local Assessment, and members of his staff.

PROFESSIONAL APPRAISALS

The end result of a complete professional appraisal consists of a file of 6" x 9" cards; one card for each parcel of land bearing the name of the owner of record and the value of each building and the value of the land.

Values are established for each building by a consideration of the replacement cost of each individual part, including the size, type and quality of construction; the type of materials used such as poured or cinder block foundations, hard or soft wood floors, quality of interior finish, etc.; and all appurtenances such as central heating and bath rooms. The sum of these appraised values determines the total replacement cost of the building. A final value is determined by the application of depreciation percentages which take into account deterioration and also functional value brought about by obsolescence and such factors as surplus size, high ceilings, etc.

Land values are appraised by classifying land into such categories as crop land, permanent pasture, wood lots, building lots, orchard, swamp land, etc. Unit values are established for each of these categories and the total value is obtained as the sum of the parts.

The Clemenshaw Co. has quoted prices of \$6,000. for the appraisal of all real estate and \$4,100. for buildings only. These prices include the com-

plete card file prepared for assessment purposes; the instruction of local assessors so that the system can be maintained through future years; and, presuming that the list of assessed values would be published, the appearance of representatives of the company at informal public meetings at which any tax payer could have an explanation of his values.

MAPPING

At a meeting with a representative of Gordon E. Ainsworth & Associates the process of mapping was described. This consists first of aerial photographic maps to be made of the entire town. On these photographs, boundary lines are located using such records as are available, and by visits to individual tracts for consultation with owners as to the location of boundary markers and other physical features. Using the completed photographic maps, a set of enlarged outline maps is drafted showing dimensions and areas. They have quoted a price of \$11,750.00 for this work.

CONFERENCE WITH STATE BUREAU OF LOCAL ASSESSMENTS

The conference with members of the State Bureau of Local Assessments consisted primarily of a discussion of the methods used by our local assessors in arriving at property values, and a comparison of sales prices as shown by tax stamps on deeds of transfer with current assessed values. They were sufficiently impressed with their examination that they advised against incurring the expense of a professional reassessment.

CONCLUSION

A professional appraisal would yield a detailed record for each piece of property; bring assessment values up to date, and provide a systematic method for maintaining proportionate values.

It is recommended that, if a professional reappraisal is desired, it be accepted for buildings only. The value of land constitutes only about 30% of the total value of all real estate, but the cost for appraising land including the cost of mapping would amount to \$13,650, whereas, for buildings only which constitute about 70% of the total, the cost would be \$4,100. Also the systematic process of appraising buildings appears to be of greater advantage than is to be gained by the professional appraisal of land.

Articles 27 and 28 of the warrant provide an opportunity for each individual to vote his desires on this subject. Your committee recommends a vote against the reappraisal of both land and buildings. Concerning the reappraisal of buildings only, no recommendation is made. It is desired that the result of the voting shall express the personal preference of a majority of the voters. If uncertainty remains in the minds of members at town meeting, your committee will be glad to answer questions to the best of its ability.

REPORT OF THE BELDING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Receipts :

Cash Balance	\$ 604.55	
F. A. Cross Library Fund	289.56	
M. M. Belding, Jr. Fund	126.16	
Belding Dividend	1,840.94	
Gaylord Brothers	17.65	
Fees and Fines	15.90	
Sales of Books	14.23	
Conway Savings Bank	300.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,208.99

Expenditures :

Salaries and Services	\$ 855.00	
Books and Magazines	132.78	
Insurance	196.10	
Repairs and Improvements	1,383.38	
Materials and Supplies	18.88	
Water	2.50	
Bank Charges and Box	5.70	
Fuel	276.00	
Telephone and Lights	148.76	
Desk Fund	10.00	
Balance	179.89	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,208.99

Library Savings Accounts :

Conway Savings Bank	\$ 1,194.70
Franklin County Trust Company	297.49
Franklin Savings Institution	270.05
Greenfield Savings Bank	2,310.32
Shelburne Falls Savings Bank	531.79
Northampton Institution for Savings	755.28

MARY PRISCILLA HOWES,
Treasurer.

BOOKS ADDED TO THE BELDING MEMORIAL LIBRARY IN 1959

Adult Fiction

Aswell	Abigail
Baldwin	Blaze of Sunlight
Barry	The Carolinians
Campbell	Silver Fruit
Cotterell	Errand at Shadow Creek
Culp	Born of the Sun
Ehle	Kingstree Island
Fletcher	Cormorant's Brood
Hale	Dear Beast
Haley	Final Diagnosis
Hill	The South Wind Blew Softly
Keyes	Station Wagon in Spain
Loring	With This Ring
Mason	Young Titan
Packer	High Roof
Slaughter	Lorena
Stringfellow	The Fresh and the Salt
Van Every	Scarlet Feather
Ogilvie	Witch Door

Gifts

Cannon	Bird of Prey
Carr	The Dead Man's Knock
Chasins	The Van Cliburn Legend
Coxe	The Big Gamble
Ellin	So in the Eighth Circle
Giles	The Land Beyond the Mountains
Green	The Last Angry Man
Hough	The New England Story
Hunt	Kill My Love
Ilyn	Dawn of the Eighth Day
Lockridge	Accent on Murder
Queen	New York Murders

Adult Non-Fiction

Hastings and Muir	A Little Widow is a Dangerous Thing
Jarvis	Folk Medicine
Jeremy	All the Days of My Life
Parker	In All Love and Honor
Peck	What Next, Dr. Peck
Snow	Legends of the New England Coast
Weaver	As I Live and Breathe

Gifts

Hall	One Saint & Seven Sinners
Lloyd	Private Letters of Luke
Miller	A New History of the United States
Najah & Hinckley	Reveille for a Persian Village
Schlesinger	Coming of the Newdeal
Van Doren	Letters to Mother
Wagen Knecht	The Seven Worlds of Theodore Roosevelt

Youth Fiction

Hale	Blossoms in the Wind
Taber	Spring Harvest

Youth Non-Fiction

Bartlett	Alaska
Boone	Twixt Twelve and Twenty

Junior Fiction

Allbrecht	Deborah Remembers
Geisel	Happy Birthday To You
Hoff	Sammy the Seal
Hurd	Last One Home is a Green Pig
Minarik	Father Bear Comes Home

Junior Non-Fiction

Miers	Story Book of Science
Selsam	See Through the Jungle

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

To the Citizens of Sunderland, Whately and Ashfield:

I herewith submit my report as Public Health Nurse for the towns of Sunderland, Whately and Ashfield.

The visits for 1959 are recorded as follows:

School Health	282
Non Communicable Diseases	220
Conferences and Consultations	170
Home School	21
Immunization Clinics	4
Well Child Conferences	8½ days
Not At Home	14
First Aid	31
Maternal and Child Health	20
Transportation and Supplies	132
Adult Health	20
Dental Surveys	5
<hr/>	
Total Visits	930
Total Receipts	\$207.50

This summer a girl and boy from each town of Ashfield, Sunderland and Whately attended Health Camp and seemed to benefit a great deal from this experience.

Well Child Conferences were held in Ashfield, Conway and Whately with a total of 183 Pre-School children being seen by Dr. Merritt B. Low and Dr. Paul B. Koehler.

The annual Immunization Clinics were held in each town with a total of 246 school children and 75 Pre-School children receiving the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough vaccine.

The incidence of acute communicable diseases was kept to a minimum until these last two months when several cases of Scarlet Fever, Measles and Chicken Pox have been reported in all towns. The schools have been visited often and teacher-nurse conferences were held concerning children who might need help. These conferences are invaluable, and often simplify an apparently difficult situation.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of you who helped so generously throughout the year, the Superintendent of Schools, Teachers, Doctors, State Workers and Voluntary Workers of the Community.

Respectfully submitted,

JOAN G. DICKINSON, R.N.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To the Citizens of Sunderland, Whately and Ashfield:

I herewith submit my eleventh annual report of the Public Health Nursing Advisory committee.

Three meetings were held, one in Sunderland in April at which officers were elected for two years; one in July in Whately to appoint a new nurse and one in December, also in Whately, to discuss the 1960 budget.

Mrs. Jacqueline Horton of Shelburne Falls who was appointed in March of 1958 resigned effective July 7. Mrs. Joan Dickinson of North Hatfield was selected from a field of seven applicants and assumed her duties July 10. Mrs. Dickinson serves as school nurse in Conway in addition to her home and school duties in this area. It is noted there are nearly 800 children in the schools alone to be served.

Three new members were appointed to the committee: Mrs. Edward Tozloski and Mrs. Guilford of Sunderland and Mrs. Merrill Field of Ashfield.

A special tribute goes to Mrs. Raymond Anderson of Ashfield who has so faithfully arranged the well-child clinics in that town for several years.

In closing I wish to thank all who assisted in the well-child clinics and all others who have assisted in making our health program successful. My special thanks to the members who have responded to "telephone" meetings thus eliminating much travel for necessary emergency decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

DOROTHY G. STRIPPE

Chairman

REPORT OF THE AMBULANCE COMMITTEE

To the Citizens of Ashfield:

If our Ambulance Log Book is any indication, Ashfield enjoyed a period of unusual good health during 1959. A total of 26 trips were made; 24 to local hospitals and 2 to a Boston hospital. This was quite a drop from 53 in 1956 and 42 in 1957. There was one serious motor vehicle accident involving a mother and her teenage son which proved to be our worst case of the year.

Since everyone should have some knowledge of First Aid there will be another Red Cross course in 1960. The class will include anyone interested and will be a must for those volunteers making up the Ambulance crews. We will always need and welcome recruits to the good cause.

We are still surprised to find people in town who do not realize that the services of the Ambulance are free and without charge to the citizens of Ashfield. Thus far generous contributions to the Ambulance Fund have made this possible and we fully expect will continue to do so in the future.

Under the Town Treasurer's Report you will find figures covering the Ambulance receipts and expenditures for 1959.

Respectfully submitted,

LESLIE H. GUILFORD, Clerk

CENTRAL FRANKLIN WELFARE DISTRICT

Balance January 2, 1959 \$ 3,495.14

Receipts:

Town of Shelburne	\$ 2,160.00
Town of Colrain	1,000.00
Administration O. A. A.	
U. S. Grant	2,823.68
Administration A. D. C.	
U. S. Grant	772.29
Administration D. A.	
U. S. Grant	894.56
Administration State	3,353.64
Retirement Deductions	440.28
Withholding Tax Deductions	1,050.86
State Tax Deductions	46.68
Blue Cross Deductions	138.60
	<hr/>
	\$ 12,680.59

TOTAL

\$ 16,175.73

Payments:

Salaries	\$ 8,804.95
Priscilla A. Doneilo, Treas.	100.00
Dr. Francis Cary (Medical Advisor)	120.00
Travel	227.07
Office Supplies & Expense	1,004.28
Retirement Assessment	353.23
Rent	204.00
Withholding Tax Deductions	1,050.86
State Tax Deductions	45.53
Retirement Deductions	440.28
Blue Cross Deductions	138.60
Total Payments	<hr/>
	\$ 12,488.80

Balance December 31, 1959

\$ 3,686.93

Reconciliation of Bank Balance

Bank Balance December 31, 1959	\$ 4,234.72
Checks outstanding December 31, 1959	547.79
	<hr/>
Check Book Balance December 31, 1959	\$ 3,686.93

PRISCILLA A. DONEILO,
Treasurer

REPORT OF VETERANS' AGENT

To the Selectmen of Ashfield:

The 15th annual report of the Western Franklin Veterans' Service District is submitted, herewith, for the information of the Towns concerned.

Requests for service during 1959 totalled 904. Registrations for Selective Service numbered forty-one. Forty-one veterans applied for State or Veterans Administration Hospital or medical treatment. Two Hundred and thirty requests were received for photostatic copies and we made One Thousand Two hundred and Fifty-four prints. Applications for Non-service Disability pensions continue to increase as the veterans become disabled from age or infirmity. Applications were completed and copies made of vital records and evidence required by the Veterans Administration for Thirty-one cases for Veterans and Widows who are eligible.

Twenty-four new applications for assistance under the provisions of Chapter 115 were received during the year. Thirty-five families received assistance during the year under this law for a total expense of \$26,419.07. We now have a total of nineteen active cases.

The total expense for administration of the District Office for the year was \$5,678.76. This amount was divided among the ten Towns, in accordance with provisions of Chapter 599, of the Acts of 1946, in proportion to their assessed valuation.

We are still fortunate in having a V. A. Contact Office at Greenfield with Mr. O'Neil in charge to advise and assist in Veterans Administration claims.

The interest and cooperation of the Town Representatives is very helpful and is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT E. SCOTT

Director and Veterans' Agent

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

To the citizens of the Town of Ashfield, I herewith submit my report as Fire Chief.

The past year was fairly free of costly fires. One serious building fire and several chimney fires and a few grass and brush fires.

The brush and grass fires caused no damage. Only one of the chimney fires resulted in a building fire. This fire, although doing considerable damage, was checked in time so as to make it practical to repair.

The pumper had its first real test on this fire and performed its duty well.

There is a need for more volunteer firemen for the department, as several of the part-time firemen have moved out of town, changed location of their work, or feel they have become too old for the type of work firefighting requires. Anyone interested in joining the department may notify anyone in the fire department, including the Chief. If we can assemble enough men, we will conduct a fire fighting school here in town as soon as weather permits.

It doesn't matter how willing a person may be to help at a fire, if he isn't acquainted with the apparatus and have a general idea of what must be done, his work cannot be efficient. An instructor from the Greenfield Fire Department will give us this instruction free, providing we have a class of ten or twelve men.

During the past year, I had hoped to run the department on a reduced budget and found it cannot be done. Although there may be money left unexpended, I did not replace as much equipment as was lost during the year.

Most of our hose was bought sixteen to eighteen years ago. This is much longer than hose is expected to last and must be replaced in the near future. The most painless way of course, is by replacing some each year.

Mutual Aid was called to help once this year, which gave us the extra equipment when it was needed.

I am thankful for the confidence and co-operation from all the townspeople in keeping our fire losses at a minimum.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD A. CRANSON
Fire Chief

REPORT OF THE PARK COMMITTEE

To the citizens of the Town of Ashfield, we herewith submit our report as Park Committee.

The use of the Town Park is increasing each year. The beach is the main attraction although the picnic areas are being used much more frequently by local people.

The tennis courts, which would be used to a great extent, have been neglected for the past two years from lack of funds to keep the playing surface in proper condition. It is our hope that at least one of these courts can be reconstructed with a black-top surface this coming year.

The grass, weeds, and brush have been mowed at the picnic areas the past two years, which has improved the appearance and made the area much more desirable and convenient for family gatherings. There is room for two or three more picnic tables without being crowded.

The activities at the Beach are as follows:

A total of fourteen rescues were made during the eleven week period; ten were children, three were teenage, and one adult.

On Sunday, August 16, Mr. Howard Warner, Director of Water Safety in Western Massachusetts, presented an hour long water safety show to a group of over three hundred people. It was very impressive and enjoyed by everyone.

Mr. Archie Aitken presented the beach front with fifteen flutter boards for use in teaching leg strokes during swimming classes. These boards were instrumental in the success of the swimming classes. The gift was greatly appreciated by all concerned.

The swimming classes registered

		No. Passed
Beginners	54	40
Advanced Beginners	21	20
Intermediates	38	21
Swimmers	19	14
Adults	16	14
Junior and Senior Life Saving	12	8
TOTALS	160	117

The cost to the Town was sixty-three cents per pupil. There was a great deal of time donated by the life guard for adult swimming lessons and life saving students. Both of these groups do not come under the regular swimming instructions.

We believe the interest of so many adults in learning to swim is admirable and beneficial to themselves and their families, and we know they are grateful to the life guard for giving so much of her time.

There were five Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts who passed their merit badge requirements during the season.

The girls bath house was repaired and put back on new foundations, pipe rails were installed on the bridge across the dam spillway, and a new regulation diving board and stand installed on the dock. A layer of sand for the Beach was donated by C. W. Ward, Inc.

Because of limited facilities at the Park, and the limited area of the Lake, we feel there is a definite need for some sort of rules and regulations in regards to the use of the Park and the Lake.

Although rules and regulations are undesirable to everyone, there comes a time when we must accept them for the Safety to ourselves and our children. The Town of Rowe has a Park and Lake very similar to our own, and have set up rules and regulations for their use which have been accepted by the Township with the State's approval.

After discussing these rules and regulations, your Park Committee recommends the citizens of Ashfield to accept the following:

*RULES AND REGULATIONS COVERING THE OPERATION
AND USE OF THE TOWN OF ASHFIELD PARK AT GREAT
POND KNOWN AS "ASHFIELD LAKE"*

1. No person shall build a fire for any purpose except in fire places provided.
2. The cutting, mutilating, removing or taking away of trees, shrubs, flowers or wood, is prohibited.
3. Disorderly conduct, obscene or indecent language or behavior, or the possession or drinking of intoxicating liquors is prohibited.
4. No person shall permit a dog to be at large in the bathing areas of the Park.
5. Hunting, trapping and the use of fire-arms is prohibited within the Park.
6. No person shall remove or deface any sign, poster or building within the Park.
7. Garbage and other refuse resulting from picnicking or other causes shall be deposited in containers provided for that purpose.
8. No person shall operate a motor vehicle on any roadway within the Park at a speed in excess of ten (10) miles per hour.
9. The maximum horsepower of any power-operated boat or canoe using the waters of Ashfield Lake, shall not exceed ten (10) horsepower.

10. No person shall anchor or moor any raft or float, nor construct any pier or dock within the limits of the Park, without first obtaining a written permit from the Park Commission to do so.

11. No glass containers, etc., will be permitted to be taken into any beach or swimming area in the Park.

12. Persons using the facilities of the Park must observe all regulations set up by the Park Commission and comply with any request made by a life guard or other person in charge of the area.

13. The use of the Park Beach shall be limited to Ashfield residents and/or Taxpayers of the Town of Ashfield, with their guests.

The foregoing rules and regulations shall remain in effect until revoked and superseded by a similar set of regulations.

The Committee wishes to thank everyone who has helped to make the Park an enjoyable place to spend their time. We also wish to thank the public for the co-operation given us. And the life guard for her excellent work at the Beach.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES W. DAY

JAMIESON REID

HOWARD A. CRANSON

Park Committee

ZONING BY-LAW

Town of Ashfield, Massachusetts

SECTION 1, PURPOSE

The purposes of this By-Law are to promote the general welfare of the Town of Ashfield, to protect the health and safety of its inhabitants, to encourage the most appropriate use of land within the town, to increase the amenities of the town, and reduce the hazard from fire by regulating the location and use of buildings and the area of open spaces about them.

SECTION 2, GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. The entire area of the Town of Ashfield is hereby designated as a "Residential-Agriculture-Business-Industrial District".

B. Use of Buildings, Structures, and Land.

Except as provided in Section 5 herein, any lawful building or structure may be constructed, altered or enlarged and any lawful building, structure or land or part thereof may be used for any purpose which is not injurious, noxious, offensive or detrimental to a neighborhood and does not violate any section of this By-Law, or any of the provisions of the Town of Ashfield in regard to health and safety to its inhabitants.

C. Existing Uses Not Affected.

This By-Law shall not apply to existing buildings or structures, nor to the existing use of any buildings or structures, or of land to the extent of that use at the time of the adoption of this By-Law.

D. Non-Conforming Uses Can Continue.

A non-conforming use is the use of any building or land lawfully occupied at the time of the adoption of this By-Law which does not conform to the requirements of this By-Law.

Any building, part of a building, or land which at the time of the adoption of this By-Law is being put to a non-conforming use may be:

- (a.) Continued in that use or a similar use provided such use has not been voluntarily discontinued for a period of one year.
- (b.) Altered or enlarged in that use, but only after the granting of a permit therefor ordered by the Board of Appeals.
- (c.) Changed to a more restricted use, provided that when changed it shall not be returned to a less restricted use.

- (d.) Rebuilt or restored at the same location and again used as previously, in the case of a building destroyed or damaged by fire, explosion or other catastrophe; provided that not more than seventy-five per cent (75%) of the building exclusive of foundations has been so damaged or destroyed. Such rebuilding or restoring shall be commenced within six (6) months after such catastrophe; and the building as restored shall not exceed in volume or area the original non-conforming structure, except that any building or structure which is originally non-conforming by virtue of its location in relation to the set-back, rear yard or side yard requirements of this By-Law, as restored, exceed in volume or area the original non-conforming structure provided that the foundation of the building, as so restored, encroaches to no greater extent any front, rear, or side yard than the original non-conforming structure.

E. Corner Clearance.

Between the lines of streets intersecting at an angle of less than one hundred and thirty-five (135) degrees and a line joining points on such lines ten (10) feet distant from that point of intersection, no building or structure may be erected and no vegetation may be maintained between a height of three and one-half ($3\frac{1}{2}$) feet and a height of eight (8) feet above the plane through their curb grades.

SECTION 3, DEFINITIONS

In this By-Law, the following terms shall have the meaning here assigned to them:

- (1) The singular number includes the plural, and the plural the singular; the word "lot" includes "plot"; the word "building" includes "Structure"; the word "occupied" includes "designed, arranged, or intended to be occupied"; the word "uses" includes "designed, arranged or intended to be used".

ACCESSORY USE. The use of a building or premises for a purpose customarily incidental to the main or principal use.

DWELLING. A house or building or portion thereof which is occupied by one or more families doing their cooking on the premises.

FRONT YARD. The space across the full width of the lot and extending from the front line of the building located on such lot to the street line of such lot. (See "setback").

LOT. A parcel of land on which a principal building and its accessories are placed together with the required open spaces.

LOT LINE. A division line between adjoining properties or a division line between individual lots established by a plan filed in the Registry of Deeds or Land Court.

OFFICE. A place for the transaction of a professional service or business, not including the sale of articles at retail.

REAR YARD. Is a space across the full width of a lot and extending from the rear foundation line of the building located on such lot to the rear line of such lot.

SETRACK. The minimum required unoccupied space or area between the street line on which the building is numbered or would be numbered, and the part of the building nearest such street line, such unoccupied space or area extending the entire width or distance across the lot. (See "Front Yard").

STREET LINE. The dividing line between a street and a lot and in case of a public way, the street line established by the public authority laying out said way upon which the lot abuts.

SIDE YARD. The space extending from the front yard to the rear yard between a building and the adjacent side line of the lot on which said building is located.

TRAILER. Shall mean any so-called automobile trailer, trailer coach, including any portable structure, means of conveyance, or vehicle so designated, constructed, and/or altered or converted in any manner as to permit occupancy thereof for dwelling or sleeping purposes.

TRAILER CAMP OR PARK. Shall mean any lot, parcel or tract of land upon which two or more trailers, occupied for dwelling or sleeping purposes, are located, regardless whether or not a charge is made for such accommodation.

SECTION 4, MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR LOT FRONTAGE AND AREA AND OPEN SPACES ADJACENT TO BUILDINGS.

Throughout the Town of Ashfield the following minimum provisions shall be required:

Lot Frontage — one hundred fifty (150) feet

Side Yard — fifteen (15) feet

Lot Area — twenty two thousand five hundred (22,500) square feet

Front Yard — thirty (30) feet

SECTION 5, USES OF LAND, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

(1) In the Town of Ashfield buildings, structures and land may be used and buildings and structures may be erected or altered for any residential or commercial use otherwise lawful; and with the permission of the Board of Appeals, except enterprises or uses commonly regarded as hazardous or offensive.

(2) The removal for sale of sod, loam, clay, sand, gravel, or quarried stone, except when incidental to and in connection with the construction of a structure for which a permit has been issued, or incidental to the grading and development of contiguous property, shall be permitted only if written permission of the Board of Appeals after public hearing be obtained. The Board of Appeals shall in each instance impose such conditions as will protect the neighborhood and Town against permanent and temporary hazards, because of conditions which may be left after operations are completed or because of the methods of handling such materials at the site or of transporting such materials through the Town.

SECTION 6, SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

(1) Accessory Buildings

- (a.) An accessory building attached to its principal building shall be considered an integral part of the principal building and as such shall be subject to the open space requirements applicable to the principal building.
- (b.) To promote safety, no garage building or accessory building may be used as a dwelling if it is located on the same lot as a principal building used as a residence.

(2) Area Lots.

(a.) Reduction of Open Space.

No lot on which is located any building used for residence purposes shall be changed or reduced in area or shape so it does not conform to the provisions of this By-Law. This does not apply in the case of a lot a portion of which is taken for public use. No yard, lot area, or other open space required for a building by this By-Law during the existence of such building be occupied by or counted as open space for another building.

(b.) Lots of Less than the Required Width or Area.

On lots of less than the required width and area and which have been duly recorded by plan or deed or assessed as separate par-

cels before the date of the adoption of this By-Law, the lot area and width requirements need not apply Any lot on which more than one house existed at that time, may be divided and sold to separate owners.

(3.) Open Space Adjacent to Buildings.

(a.) Front Yards.

Buildings or structures need be located only as far back from the street as the average of the front yard depths of the building or structures nearest on either side and within the same block.

(b.) Side Yards.

Buildings or structures on lots having a frontage of two streets may be located as near to the streets as the minimum front yard depths on both the streets.

(c.) Rear Yards.

Detached accessory buildings, if located entirely within a rear yard may be built as near as five feet from a side or rear lot line.

(d.) Projections.

Nothing in this By-Law shall prevent the projection of steps, eaves, cornices, window sills, or belt courses into any required yard.

SECTION 7, ENFORCEMENT.

This By-Law and any amendments thereto shall be enforced by the Board of Selectmen. No building shall be erected, externally altered or changed in use in the Town of Ashfield without a permit from the Board of Selectmen; and the Board of Selectmen shall issue no permit for the erection, external alteration or change in use of any building or part thereof, plans and specifications and intended use of which are not in all respects in conformity with the provisions of this By-Law. With each application for a permit to build or alter, there shall be filed with the Board of Selectmen a plan showing the lot and the location of the building thereon.

SECTION 8, PENALTY.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this By-Law may be fined not more than twenty (20) dollars for each offense. Each day that such violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 9, BOARD OF APPEALS.

Within thirty days after the adoption of this By-Law, the Board of Selectmen shall appoint a Board of Appeals of three members and two associate members, which shall act on all matters within its jurisdiction under

this By-Law in the manner prescribed in Chapter Forty A (40A) of the General Laws, and shall serve without remuneration. This Board of Appeals shall be appointed according to methods described in said Chapter Forty A (40A) of the General Laws, as amended, and subject always to the rule that it shall give due consideration to promoting the public health, safety, convenience and welfare, encouraging the most appropriate use of land, and that it shall permit no building or use injurious, noxious, offensive or detrimental to a neighborhood, and that it shall prescribe appropriate conditions and safeguards in each case.

SECTION 10, OTHER REGULATIONS.

This By-Law shall not interfere with or annul any By-Law, rule, regulation or permit, provided that, unless specifically excepted, where this By-Law is more stringent it shall control.

SECTION 11, VALIDITY.

The invalidity of any section or provision of this By-Law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

SECTION 12, BUILDING CODES.

1. Residence structures shall have a superficial ground-floor area of not less than 600 square feet.
2. Exterior finish, siding: Residence siding finishes may be of stone, brick, shingle, clapboards, vertical siding matched or battened or double-sheathed, stucco, concrete, or cinder block or asbestos, properly and permanently finished.
3. Exterior finish, roofing: Roofing may be of asbestos, asphalt or wood shingles, metal, or slate, properly and permanently finished.
4. Chimney construction: No chimney shall be built, erected, or altered below the roof unless containing a tile or brick lining, and with an iron clean-out door at or near its base, and all new chimneys shall extend at least two feet above the roof. All new chimneys shall be erected only upon solid grounded foundations.
5. Foundations: All residential structures shall be set on permanent foundations or piers of cement, brick, stone or other acceptable masonry, except that where buildings are to be used for assessory use or seasonal residence the building inspectors may waive the requirements of this section and permit the use of wood, metal, or other less permanent piers.

6. Electric wiring: All electric wiring shall conform with approved methods and practices for safety to life and property. Compliance with the National Electric Code, as published by the National Board of Underwriters, shall be prima facie evidence of such approved methods and practices.

7. Sewage: All permits for new residence construction shall be granted only upon provision of acceptable sanitary systems of sewage disposal.

SECTION 13, GENERAL PROVISION.

No owner or occupant of land shall permit fire or other ruins to be left, but shall remove the same within one year. All abandoned wells must be filled or permanently covered.

SECTION 14, ENFORCEMENT.

(1) No permit, however, shall be issued unless the proposed structure will present an acceptable appearance and will be in keeping with the neighborhood, and unless the building is to be finished on the exterior in a permanent manner and is to be suitably painted on the outside whenever the same is of wood or a material customarily painted on the outside. This is intended to eliminate the erection of structures which are obviously out of place for the neighborhood where they are to be located and which may have a detrimental effect on the property values and neighborhood character.

(2) When rational objection on account of the appearance or placement of a proposed structure, as above indicated, is raised by a majority of the families residing or owning property within the area, the Board of Selectmen shall hold a public hearing to receive the evidence on both sides and shall have the authority to decide whether the permit shall be issued or not.

(3) Upon any well founded information that this By-Law is being violated the Selectmen shall, on their own initiative, take immediate steps to enforce the provisions of this By-Law.

(4) Permit fees to be established.

SECTION 15, AMENDMENTS.

This By-Law may be amended by a majority vote of any legal town meeting when such proposed amendment is published in the warrant calling for the meeting, and has received a public hearing, which hearing has been given a legal fifteen day notice.

STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT

October 8, 1959

To the Board of Selectmen

Mr. Donald W. Lilly, Chairman

Ashfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

I submit herewith my report of an audit of the books and accounts of the town of Ashfield for the period from July 14, 1957 to July 11, 1959, made in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, General Laws. This is in the form of a report made to me by Mr. William Schwartz, Assistant Director of Accounts.

Very truly yours,

HERMAN B. DINE

Director of Accounts

HBD:MDG

Mr. Herman B. Dine

Director of Accounts

Department of Corporations and Taxation

State House, Boston

Sir:

As directed by you, I have made an audit of the books and accounts of the town of Ashfield for the period from July 14, 1957, the date of the previous examination, to July 11, 1959, the following report being submitted thereon:

The records of financial transactions of the several departments receiving or disbursing money or sending out bills for collection were examined and checked with the records of the town treasurer.

Ledger accounts were compiled, and a balance sheet, which is appended to this report, was prepared showing the financial condition of the town on July 11, 1959.

The books and accounts of the town treasurer were examined and checked. The receipts, as recorded, were analyzed and checked with the records of the departments making payments to the treasurer and with other sources from which money was paid into the town treasury, while

the expenditures were compared with the selectmen's warrants and with the classified record of payments. The cash balance on July 11, 1959 was proved by reconciliation of the bank balance with a statement furnished by the depository and by actual count of the cash on hand.

The records of payroll deductions on account of Federal and State taxes, the county retirement system, and Blue Cross and Blue Shield were examined and checked. The deductions were listed, the payments to the proper agencies were verified, and the balances in the general treasury were proved.

The savings bank books and securities, representing the investment of the trust funds in the custody of the town treasurer and the trustees, were examined and listed. The income and withdrawals were proved, and all transactions and balances were verified.

The payments on account of maturing debt and interest were checked with the amounts falling due and with the cancelled securities and coupons on file.

The surety bonds of the several town officials required by law to furnish them were examined and found to be in proper form.

The books and accounts of the tax collector were examined and checked in detail. The accounts outstanding at the time of the previous examination, as well as all subsequent commitments of taxes, motor vehicle and trailer excise, and farm animal excise, were audited and proved with the assessors' warrants. The collections, as recorded, were checked with the payments to the treasurer, the recorded abatements were compared with the assessors' records of abatements granted, and the outstanding accounts were listed and proved.

The tax collector's cash balance on July 11, 1959 was proved by reconciliation of the bank balance with a statement furnished by the bank of deposit and by actual count of the cash in the office.

Further verification of the outstanding accounts was made by mailing notices to a large number of persons whose names appeared on the books as owing money to the town, and from the replies received thereto it appears that the accounts, as listed, are correct.

The financial transactions of the town clerk were examined and checked. The receipts for dog and sporting licenses, as well as for gasoline registrations, were checked with the records of licenses issued, and the payments to the town treasurer and to the Division of Fisheries and Game were verified. The cash on hand July 11, 1959 was proved by actual count.

The town's clerk's records of appropriations voted by the town meetings were listed and compared with the aggregate amounts raised by the assessors in the determination of the 1958 and 1959 tax rates.

The records of accounts receivable of the public welfare, old age assistance, veterans' services, and school departments were examined. The charges were listed and the recorded collections were checked with the payments to the town treasurer. The outstanding accounts were listed and proved.

The records of receipts of the selectmen, the sealer of weights and measures, the town hall custodian, and the district nurse, as well as of the school department, and of all other departments collecting money for the town or sending out bills for collection, were examined and checked. The payments to the treasurer were compared with the treasurer's cash receipts, and the cash on hand in the several departments was proved by actual count.

The books and accounts of the treasurer of the Belding Memorial Library were examined and checked. The receipts from fines, gifts, and investment income, as well as from the town treasurer, were verified. The expenditures were checked with the vouchers on file, and the cash balance on July 11, 1959 was proved by reconciliation of the bank balance with a statement furnished by the bank of deposit.

The classified record of payments was checked with the paid bills on file, and it was noted that the town purchased a sander and spreader for \$2,342.20 and a snow plow for \$1,317.00 during 1958 without inviting bids as required by the provisions of Section 4B, Chapter 40, General Laws.

In addition to the balance sheet, there are appended to this report tables showing reconciliations of the treasurer's and the tax collector's cash, summaries of the tax, excise, and departmental accounts, as well as schedules showing the transactions and condition of the trust funds.

For the cooperation received from the several town officials while engaged in making the audit, I wish, on behalf of my assistants and for myself, to express appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM SCHWARTZ

Assistant Director of Accounts

WS:MDG

BALANCE SHEET — TOWN OF ASHFIELD

July 11, 1959

GENERAL ACCOUNTS

Assets		Liabilities and Reserves	
Cash,	\$ 36,593.39	State and County Assessments 1959:	\$ 688.07
Accounts Receivable:		State Recreation Areas,	\$ 8,878.51
Taxes:		County Tax,	\$ 9,566.58
Levy of 1956:			
Personal Property,	\$ 39.44	Payroll Deductions:	
Real Estate,	116.00	Federal Taxes,	\$ 104.40
	\$ 155.44	State Taxes,	260.21
Levy of 1957:		County Retirement System,	20.22
Personal Property,	\$ 50.75	Blue Cross and Blue Shield,	177.40
Real Estate,	159.50		\$ 562.23
	\$ 210.25	Dog Licenses — Due County,	106.00
Levy of 1958:		Collector's Costs,	117.80
Poli,	\$ 12.00	Trust Fund Income:	
Personal Property,	570.90	M. M. Belding Library,	\$ 85.73
Real Estate,	4,492.50	M. M. Belding Park,	605.56
	\$ 5,075.40	Cemetery Perpetual Care,	66.45
Levy of 1959:		Cross Cemetery,	31.29
Poli,	\$ 96.00		\$ 789.03
Personal Property,	19,601.40	Old Age Assistance Recovery,	100.00
Real Estate,	76,234.53	Federal Grants:	
	\$ 95,931.93	Disability Assistance,	\$ 207.67

Net Funded or Fixed Debt:
Inside Debt Limit

\$ 24,000.00

\$ 24,000.00

Inside Debt Limit:

Highway Equipment Loan, \$ 2,000.00
School Addition Loan, 22,000.00

\$ 24,000.00

DEBT ACCOUNTS

Trust Funds, Cash and Securities:

In Custody of:

Town Treasurer,
Library Treasurer,
Franklin County Trust Company,
Greenfield,

\$ 74,269.83
5,494.48
45,898.13

In Custody of Town Treasurer:

Frederick A. Cross General Town Purpose Fund,	\$ 40,930.42
Eliza Miller Charity Fund,	9,680.23
Major W. King Charity Fund,	4,451.11
Susan Howes Charity Fund,	565.43
Salmon Miller Charity Fund,	3,997.61
Whiting Street Charity Fund,	2,409.86
Henry Taylor Charity Fund,	3,985.17
Frederick A. Cross Library Fund,	5,000.00
Frederick A. Cross Cemetery Fund,	2,000.00
Cemetery Perpetual Care Funds,	1,250.00
	<hr/> \$ 74,269.83

TRUST ACCOUNTS

In Custody of Library Treasurer :

Belding Library Fund Income,	\$ 550.60
General Library Fund,	1,452.01
Lilly Library Fund,	2,758.75
Sarah Norton Library Fund,	733.12
	<hr/> \$ 5,494.48

In Custody of Franklin County Trust
Company, Greenfield :

Milo M. Belding Library Fund,	\$ 32,991.71
Milo M. Belding Library Surplus Fund,	6,000.00
Milo M. Belding, Jr. Library and Park Fund,	6,906.42
	<hr/> \$ 45,898.13
	<hr/> \$125,662.44

\$125,662.44

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

SCHOOL CALENDAR

1960

Winter Term Begins, January 4
Vacation Week, February 19 to February 29
Vacation Week, April 15 to April 25
School Year Ends for Grades 1 - 8, June 17
School Year Ends for High School, June 24
School Year Begins, September 7
Fall Term Ends, December 21
Winter Term Begins, January 2, 1961
School is closed for all legal holidays

SCHOOL CENSUS

Ages	5 - 7	7 - 14	14 - 16	Total
Boys	22	82	15	119
Girls	11	67	14	92
Total in School	33	149	29	211
Pre-School	23	0	0	23

Pupils 7 - 16 Years: 178

Pupils over 16 years in School in Town: 33

Pupils over 16 years in School out of Town: 11

ESTIMATED INCOME 1960

School Department — Town of Ashfield

School Aid	\$ 14,571.88
State reimbursement for transportation	8,717.00
State reimbursement, salary and transportation of Superintendent	1,493.33
Vocational transportation and tuition	2,794.12
State Wards — tuition and transportation	1,274.03
Tuition from other towns	4,655.20
Supt's office telephone — "other towns"	76.68
Dog Tax	270.50
To raise by Taxation	64,914.65
SCHOOL BUDGET	<hr/> \$ 98,767.39

INCOME

1959

Appropriation		\$ 92,125.00
School Aid	\$ 14,571.88	
Supt's Salary and Travel	1,396.78	
Vocational Education	2,381.70	
Vocational Education — Balance 1958	62.40	
Transportation	8,277.00	
Tuition — "Other Towns"		
Buckland	180.52	
Plainfield	3,276.78	
Janet Wetterwald	109.86	
Transportation — "Other Towns"		
Buckland	26.25	
Plainfield	243.50	
Dog Tax	396.63	
State Wards (1959)	1,189.03	
Supt's Office Telephone — "Other Towns"		
Cummington	25.56	
Goshen	25.56	
Plainfield	25.56	
Local Taxation	59,935.99	
		\$ 92,125.00

EXPENDITURES

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Expenses of School Committee		\$ 44.35
Superintendent of Schools:		
Salary	\$ 2,710.36	
Travel	277.48	
Office Clerk	882.96	
Office Expense	48.61	
		\$ 3,919.41
Expense of Principal		149.54

HIGH SCHOOL:

Salaries Teachers:		
William B. Saunders	\$ 5,840.00	
Roderick MacLeod, Jr.	2,600.00	
George Gamache	1,600.00	
Margaret Loomis	2,645.00	
Margaret Laballee	3,890.00	
Arthur Perrone	2,540.00	
Frances Gutkowski	1,440.00	
Louise Sears	4,090.00	

Gladys Howes	630.00
Barbara Cranston	72.00
Mae Monahan	12.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 25,359.00

ELEMENTARY:

Salaries of Teachers:

Dorothy Taylor	\$ 3,880.00
L. Silver Packard	3,990.00
Mary Dole	3,990.00
Ethel Williams	3,990.00
Elsie Mayer	4,060.00
Rachel Manners	1,440.00
Vivian Fuller	3,990.00
Doris Howes	3,925.28
Estella Carter	315.00
Ethel Werner	84.00
Mae Monahan	12.00
G. Elliott Taylor	60.00
Sylvia Svoboda	48.00
Barbara Cranston	12.00
Dorothy Townsley	24.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 29,820.28

SUPERVISORS:

Salaries:

Janet Wetterwald	\$ 440.00
Arch Swift	760.00
Isabel Montague	320.00
Jeanette Rich	940.00
W. L. Rinehart	300.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,760.00

SCHOOL COSTS:

High School Texts	\$ 249.91
Elementary Texts	468.73
High School Supplies	1,037.19
Elementary Supplies	1,240.00
Visual Education	75.29
Janitor Salary	3,000.00
Fuel	2,227.17

MISCELLANEOUS I:

New England Telephone & Telegraph Co.	\$ 304.41
Western Massachusetts Electric Company	896.40
Mary P. Howes	6.00
Sandberg's Service Station	38.24
Reniff's Garage	.75
Cascade Paper Co.	11.91

Wirthmore Grain & Coal Co.	136.92	
The Kendall Co.	4.00	
Edward L. Cantor, Inc.	65.50	
J. I. Holcomb Mfg. Co.	18.50	
J. B. Sebrell	34.90	
Elmer's Store	2.87	
Alden Gray	15.00	
Richco Products Inc.	11.41	
H. A. Cranson & Son	7.88	
West Chemical Products Inc.	10.66	
Oakes Electrical Supply Co.	1.05	
E. E. Lively	10.00	
Aborn Chemical Industries	44.27	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,620.67
Maintenance:		
William Whitehouse	\$ 20.00	
Richard Pease	20.00	
Carl Dige	68.18	
Howard Cranson	253.62	
Ashfield Motor Sales	3.00	
Telectrad Service Center	29.58	
Ralph S. Pease	26.75	
Commonwealth of Massachusetts	8.45	
Alden Gray	20.00	
Johnson Service Co.	19.02	
Gray's	17.50	
Automatic Oil Heating Co.	140.95	
Wirthmore Grain & Coal Co.	125.82	
Frank Carter	78.18	
Commissioner of Public Safety	10.00	
Reniff's Garage	157.08	
Howard H. Pease	94.01	
Mary P. Howes	66.50	
Charles Brambilla	15.00	
Robert H. Nye	17.65	
School Sound System, Inc.	112.00	
C. W. Ward, Inc.	36.06	
Gilbert Roberts	13.50	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,352.85
Library		21.00
Health:		
Dr. Eugene P. Whittier, Salary	\$ 125.00	
Health Supplies	21.08	
	<hr/>	\$ 146.08
Transportation:		
Town:		
C. W. Ward, Inc.	\$ 8,500.00	

Everett Rice	1,007.00	
Roderick MacLeod, Jr.	27.00	
William Saunders	12.00	
Gilbert Roberts, Jr.	59.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 9,605.00

Vocational:

Gilbert Graves	\$ 175.00	
Emory Howes	187.00	
Guy Tanner	169.00	
Dorothy Phelps	360.00	
Linwood Williams	120.00	
Rita Devine	285.00	
Mildred Collins	36.00	
Edward Dufresne	168.00	
Charles Culver	239.00	
Howard Hall	186.00	
Hubert Tobias	181.00	
Clifford Parker	154.00	
Harry Pease	68.00	
Harwood Thayer	56.00	
Gilbert Roberts	67.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 2,451.00

Tuition:

Vocational:

Town of Greenfield	\$ 136.87	
Town of Conway	12.00	
Frontier Regional School District	572.00	
Smith's Agriculture School	3,953.71	
	<hr/>	\$ 4,674.58

MISCELLANEOUS II:

William B. Saunders	\$ 131.55	
New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools	25.00	
William Whitehouse	40.00	
C. Warren Gardner	8.68	
C. W. Ward, Inc.	489.44	
Ashfield Water Co.	187.50	
Clark-Harris	34.93	
Franklin League	10.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 927.10

New Equipment:

Enterprise Store	\$ 7.97	
Cascade Paper Co.	68.91	
Carlisle Hardwood Co.	17.94	
West Chemical Products, Inc.	13.41	
Ditto, Inc.	160.00	

Mishek Supply Co.	8.77	
Edmond D. Shippee	40.00	
Singer Sewing Machine Co.	137.25	
J. L. Hammett	5.43	
Edward L. Cantor, Inc.	19.60	
	<hr/>	\$ 479.28
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 91,628.43
Encumbered Funds for Science Equipment		
P. L. 85-864 Under Title III		440.25
		<hr/>
		\$ 92,068.68
Unexpended Balance		56.32
		<hr/>
SCHOOL BUDGET APPROPRIATION		\$ 92,125.00

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION

1958 Bills

Special Appropriation 1958 Bills		\$ 3,993.08
School Committee Expense	\$ 5.00	
Superintendent's Office Expense	39.40	
High School Supplies	60.95	
Elementary School Supplies	23.78	
Fuel	451.06	
Miscellaneous I:		
Wirthmore Stores	\$ 47.50	
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	32.53	
Edward L. Cantor, Inc.	3.50	
West. Mass. Elec. Co.	224.08	
	<hr/>	\$ 307.61
Maintenance:		
H. A. Cranson & Son	\$ 551.22	
Donald Graves	1.00	
Johnson Service Co.	85.45	
Russell I. Baker	199.93	
Howard Pease	134.88	
H. P. Davenport	87.03	
Theringer & Dufresne	152.09	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,211.60
Vocational Tuition:		
Frontier Regional School District	\$ 64.00	
Frontier Regional School District	160.00	
Smith Agricultural School	1,657.68	
Town of Conway	12.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,893.68
TOTAL 1958 BILLS		<hr/> \$ 3,993.08

ATHLETIC FUND

Receipts 1959:

Cash Balance on Hand 1958	None	
Games	\$ 365.05	
Donations	25.43	
	<hr/>	\$ 390.48

Expenditures 1959:

Referees	\$ 260.00	
Supplies	4.18	
	<hr/>	\$ 264.18

BALANCE ON HAND	<hr/>	\$ 126.30
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MUSIC FUND

Receipts 1959:

Cash Balance on Hand 1958	\$ 136.55	
Band Concert	47.50	
Memorial Day Parade (Ashfield)	100.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 284.05

Expenditures 1959:

Repairs	\$ 8.70	
Instruments	166.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 174.70

BALANCE ON HAND	<hr/>	\$ 109.35
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HOT LUNCH FUND

Receipts 1959:

Cash Balance on Hand 1958	\$ 253.42	
Milk	224.36	
Hot Lunches	8,211.74	
State Reimbursements	3,075.06	
	<hr/>	\$ 11,764.58

Expenditures 1959:

Food	\$ 5,823.83	
Milk	2,442.41	
Labor	2,691.00	
Cafeteria Supplies	443.79	
New Equipment	106.16	
	<hr/>	\$ 11,507.19

BALANCE ON HAND	<hr/>	\$ 257.39
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WATSON FUND

Unexpended Balance 1958		\$	60.72
Wirthmore Stores	\$	49.61	
Athletic Trainers		11.11	
	<hr/>	\$	60.72

SPECIAL HEATING APPROPRIATION

Appropriation		\$	500.00
H. A. Cranson & Son	\$	288.92	
Johnson Service Co.		174.83	
Automatic Oil Heating		36.25	
	<hr/>	\$	500.00

Respectfully submitted,

RALPH E. TOWNSLEY, Chairman

DOROTHY CRAFT

ROBERT HARRIS

Ashfield School Committee.

REPORT OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

To the School Committee and Citizens of the Town of Ashfield:

During the last five months it has been my privilege to become familiar with the education which Ashfield is providing for its youth. It has been a source of considerable satisfaction to me to join a system that is on solid ground in its organization, its personnel, and its relationships with citizens of the town. I have studied education in Ashfield carefully during my five months as superintendent, and I can report at this point that on the whole the ship is sound. It is thanks to the former superintendent, to the school staff, to the School Committee, and to the citizens of the town that education is moving ahead with clear purpose. This is not to say that there aren't many things to be done; there always are. It will be my privilege to lead where I can in the continual study and improvement of our education.

SCHOOL PERSONNEL

At the beginning of the school year in September, the school welcomed the following new teachers: Mrs. Guy Manners, grade 4; Mrs. Thaddeus Gutkowski, high school science; Mrs. George Gamache, high school social studies and coach; and Mrs. Guilford Montague, music.

The Art and Music programs continue under the direction of Mrs. Jeanette Rich, Art; Mrs. Montague, Vocal Music; and Mr. Arch G. Swift, Instrumental Music.

EQUIPMENT AND BUILDING

During 1959 the school purchased new science books for grades 1 and 3 and also new language books for grades 5, 6, and 7.

A new slant-needle Singer sewing machine was purchased for the home economics room.

A new liquid-process duplicating machine was bought to replace the old machine, which had deteriorated from age and use.

With the help of the Watson Fund, the grade 8 classroom was given two coats of paint during the summer.

New book cases were made for the grade 5 room.

The heating system was improved so that adequate heat would be received in the new wing.

GRADES 3 AND 4 DIVIDED

It was decided to divide grades 3 and 4 into two classrooms, and a new teacher, Mrs. Manners, was therefore hired to teach the additional class. Because an additional classroom was needed to house the extra class, it was necessary to renovate the former superintendent's office and use it as a classroom. This was done during the summer, when new chalkboards were installed. Since September this classroom has been used as grade 12 home-room and for mathematics classes.

SCIENCE EQUIPMENT

Under the National Defense Education Act, Ashfield is entitled to reimbursement for purchases of science, mathematics, and foreign language instructional equipment up to an amount approximately \$500 per year for three years. From 1959 school funds \$440.25 have been reserved to match with federal funds for the purchase and installation of a new science table in the science laboratory.

HOT LUNCH

During the calendar year an average of 194 children have eaten the school lunch each day. This amounts to a total of 31,332 lunches. In addition, the lunchroom has served 2,266 meals to adults. 7,599 bottles of milk have been sold to children in addition to the milk with the hot plate.

The school appreciates the generosity of townspeople who have contributed apples, squash, pickles, carrots, tomatoes, turkey broth, etc., to the program. With these contributions and with the financial reimbursement received from the Federal government, the program has been able to serve an excellent variety of hot lunches.

FUTURE SCHOOL PLANS

At the last regular Town Meeting the voters authorized a committee consisting of the School Committee, the Superintendent, and three citizens appointed by the selectmen to investigate the space needs of the Ashfield School in the foreseeable future. It appears that the space we now have is adequate so long as there are at least three classes in grades 1-8 which number no more than 24. The reason for this is that there are three classrooms in use by elementary classes which cannot accommodate more than 24 pupils. It is difficult to tell now how large our incoming first grades will be during the next few years. In the 1953 annual town report Mr. Gardner, figuring on children already born and living in the town, wrote that the first and second grades in 1959-1960 would number 23 and 22 respectively; actually, the numbers are 35 and 34. However, his predictions for grades 3-12 were quite accurate. In fact, for grades 3-12 he anticipated a larger enrollment (excluding Plainfield students) than we now actually have. Unless there is a trend whereby families with young children are

moving into town, I can see no reason why our lower grade enrollments should continue to be so large. According to the best information now available, the sizes of incoming first grades during the next few years will be as follows:

1960-1961	23
1961-1962	24
1962-1963	22
1963-1964	15

With incoming first grades of these sizes the present classroom space will be adequate.

If it should develop that the incoming first grades are larger than 24 students each, a space shortage will develop in September 1963. However, if necessary it will be possible beginning in that year to use one of the small elementary classrooms for high school and to use one of the larger high school classrooms for an elementary class. The small classroom would be used for the smaller English and social studies high school classes. This is not a desirable arrangement and will not be necessary if incoming first grades do not continue regularly to be larger than 24 pupils.

In view of the fact that regional high schools are increasing in number in Massachusetts, and also in view of the fact that our high school is one of the three smallest in the state, it seems reasonable to look forward to the time when Ashfield can make advantageous arrangements with neighboring towns for a regional high school. If that should be done, the present Ashfield School could be used as an elementary school. Not knowing exactly what the future holds in regards to enrollment or possibilities of joining a regional high school, Ashfield citizens would probably be wise to make out with the present space arrangements as long as possible.

FINANCIAL

The budget which has been submitted for the 1960 calendar year reflects several concerns. One is for teachers' salaries. The general court has raised the minimum salary for teachers to \$4,000, effective September, 1960. There is a number of considerations in paying teachers' salaries, but two of the chief ones are these: what salaries do we need to pay to get good teachers, and what salaries are fair. At the present time there is no Ashfield teacher receiving more than \$4,000 in salary. This means that with the present minimum of \$3,600 the most experienced teacher is receiving only \$400 more than the least experienced teacher. When the minimum legal salary is increased to \$4,000 in September, 1960 it will be necessary in all fairness to increase the salaries of experienced teachers above the minimum level. It is also fair to recognize level of training, so that teachers with more training receive more salary.

As for competition with other towns, it is hard to get good teachers if neighboring towns are offering more money. Shelburne Falls, Deerfield,

Williamsburg, etc. have adopted salary schedules which give promise of more salary than Ashfield has so far declared. With this competition, it is necessary for Ashfield to keep in the running. The School Committee has budgeted amounts for salaries which take these considerations into account. However, in September, 1960, the salaries will probably prove still to be on the low side compared with other salaries offered in the area, especially in towns with high schools.

Another concern in determining the budget was for the upkeep of the building. There is a need for a considerable amount of painting on the interior walls of the building. Also, such things as floor tiles and baseboards need installing or, in several cases, replacing. Missing slates need to be replaced on the roof. Attention to the electrical, heating, and plumbing systems is frequently needed.

Several items of new equipment are needed. There is a need for new fixtures in the boys' lavatories. Hot water needs to be piped into one boys' lavatory. Several new fire extinguishers are needed. Fluorescent lights are needed in the present grade 7 room. In the cafeteria the hot lunch manager is feeding almost 200 children a day with the use of only two domestic kitchen ranges. She needs an industrial-type range.

CONCLUSION

As the new superintendent of schools it has been my pleasure to become friends with the people of Ashfield. I look forward to the continuance of this friendship in 1960.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT S. JACKSON,
Superintendent of Schools

Teacher	Position	Education	Degree	Date Hired
William B. Saunders	Principal	University of Hartford	B.A., M. ED	1958
Margaret Loomis	Commercial	Bay Path University		1952
George Ganache	Coach & Social Studies	Keene Teachers College	B.S. in ED.	1959
Louise Sears	Algebra & Mathematics	Westfield Normal School		1953
Margaret Lavalley	English & Latin	University of Massachusetts	B.A.	1958
Frances Gutkowski	Science & French	University of Massachusetts	B.S.	1959
Gladys Howes	Home Economics	Framingham Teachers College	B.S. in ED.	1958
Dorothy Taylor	Grade 8	North Adams State Teachers College		1958
L. Silver Packard	Grade 7	North Adams State Teachers College		1956
Mary O. Dole	Grade 6	Farmington State Teachers College		1955
Ethel D. Williams	Grade 5	North Adams State Teachers College		1955
Rachel Manners	Grade 4	Framingham Teachers College		1959
Elsie Mayer	Grade 3	Fitchburg Teachers College	B.S. in ED.	1957
Vivian Fuller	Grade 2	Lowell State Teachers College	B.S. in ED.	1948
Doris Howes	Grade 1	Framingham Teachers College & Boston University	B.S. in ED.	1957

REPORT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mr. Robert S. Jackson
Superintendent of Schools
Ashfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Jackson,

I hereby submit my report as principal of Sanderson Academy and the Ashfield Consolidated School.

ENROLLMENT — DECEMBER 23, 1959

Ashfield Consolidated School

GRADE	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
1	25	10	35
2	16	19	35
3	16	6	22
4	12	7	19
5	10	5	15
6	10	12	22
7	13	18	31
8	9	8	17
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	111	85	196

Sanderson Academy

9	6	9	15
10	6	11	17
11	5	13	18
12	10	4	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	27	37	64

Tuition Pupils

Smith School	11	0	11
Frontier School	1	2	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	12	2	14
Combined Total	150	124	274
1958 Totals	139	116	255
Increase	11	8	19

The educational climate of the schools continues to be very good. The teachers and other members of the staff have a spirit of cooperation and a professional attitude toward education. The students seem eager to learn, and disciplinary problems are almost nonexistent.

Ten students graduated from Sanderson Academy last year. Six went to college and four joined the Armed Forces.

We have one hundred percent membership in the Massachusetts Teachers Association and the Union 25 Teachers Association. We have regular teachers' meetings to discuss educational issues. The teachers show a desire to keep up to date professionally.

SAFETY

The tragic Chicago school fire pointed up a need for a fire safety program at this school, which is constructed entirely of combustible materials. Each class was instructed as to the best method to leave the building in case dense smoke was encountered and numerous fire drills were held. Many times exits were purposely blocked so that persons would have to use alternate exits. Our best time for clearing the building has been 48 seconds.

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION

The Parent-Teacher Organization has been active this year. They sponsored informative speakers and discussed educational issues in their meetings. They gave a scholarship to Robert Bates and presented the school with a very fine tape recorder. This year they voted to withdraw from the national organization and became the Parent-Teacher Organization.

MUSIC

The band played in the Western Massachusetts Music Festival last spring and received a very favorable report. Mr. Arch Swift, the director, reports that there is much better cooperation this year and the drum section has improved to the point where he expects to have the band march this year, at the Festival. The band marched in the Memorial Day parade. Two new clarinets were purchased out of the Music Fund. The twirlers are having new uniforms made.

Mrs. Isabel B. Montague has replaced Mrs. Janet Wetterwald as music supervisor for the schools. She reports that she has evaluated the needs of the various classes, thus having a basis to formulate a program of study graded for each age level. Mrs. Montague's ultimate aim is to make possible an overall music program based on three phases, that of doing or performing, of listening, and of learning sufficient theory to provide a means of making music a meaningful experience for each individual child.

The chorus under the direction of Mrs. Wetterwald performed for the guests at the Ashfield House and the Green Meadows Nursing Home. Under the direction of Mrs. Montague they sang at the Christmas program. Both the chorus and the band are preparing for a performance on Radio Station WHAI.

INSTRUCTION

A testing program has been initiated which will be uniform in that certain grades will be given mental ability tests each year. The scores will be recorded on each child's cumulative record which will aid in his guidance. Achievement tests were given to all subjects last spring. Mental ability tests were given to grades eight through twelve this fall.

The bookmobile now makes regular stops at the school. This service is used extensively by the teachers. The school appreciates the service of Mrs. Philip Rowe, who delivers films to the school on her way to and from work.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Margaret Lavalée the SANDMAN, our school newspaper, was revived last year. It proved very successful. Mrs. Silver Packard is the advisor this year.

Last spring the Consolidated School went as a group to Look Park. It proved to be a very enjoyable day for all.

A series of three spelling bees was conducted with Goshen and Cummington. It is a pleasure to report that Ashfield proved to be the victor.

SPORTS

A program of physical education was started in the first eight grades. Coach George Gamache instructs grades five through eight and I instruct grades one through four. The younger children learn exercises and group games. The older children learn and improve skills in baseball, volley ball and basketball.

Under the coaching of Mr. Arthur Perrone the basketball team lost seven and won three games, and the baseball team won five and lost five games in the Franklin County League. The basketball team won the Tri-state tournament consolation trophy. With Mrs. Louise Sears as coach, the softball team won four games and lost two. The girls' basketball team played eight games and won one.

IN CLOSING

I close my report with sincere appreciation for the important day-to-day cooperation and support given to me by Mr. Gardner, last year, and by you this year, the School Committee, parents, teachers and students.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM B. SAUNDERS,
Principal

SCHOOL NURSE'S REPORT

Mr. Robert S. Jackson
Superintendent of Schools
Ashfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Jackson:

I herewith submit my report as School Nurse for the Town of Ashfield.

Sixty-six school visits and sixteen visits to the homes of sick children were made during the year.

The required vision and audiometer tests have been completed as well as the routine weighing and measuring. Physical examinations were done by Dr. Eugene Whittier. Parents were notified by mail of any existing defects and impairments.

The immunization clinics for diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough were held during the spring with good attendance.

Two children from Ashfield attended Greenfield Health Camp for three weeks this summer and seemed to benefit a great deal from the experience.

It is hoped that a dental survey will be completed during the early part of this year. There is great need for a good dental health program in school.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to you, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Saunders, Mrs. Carter, Dr. Whittier and all teachers and parents for their co-operation.

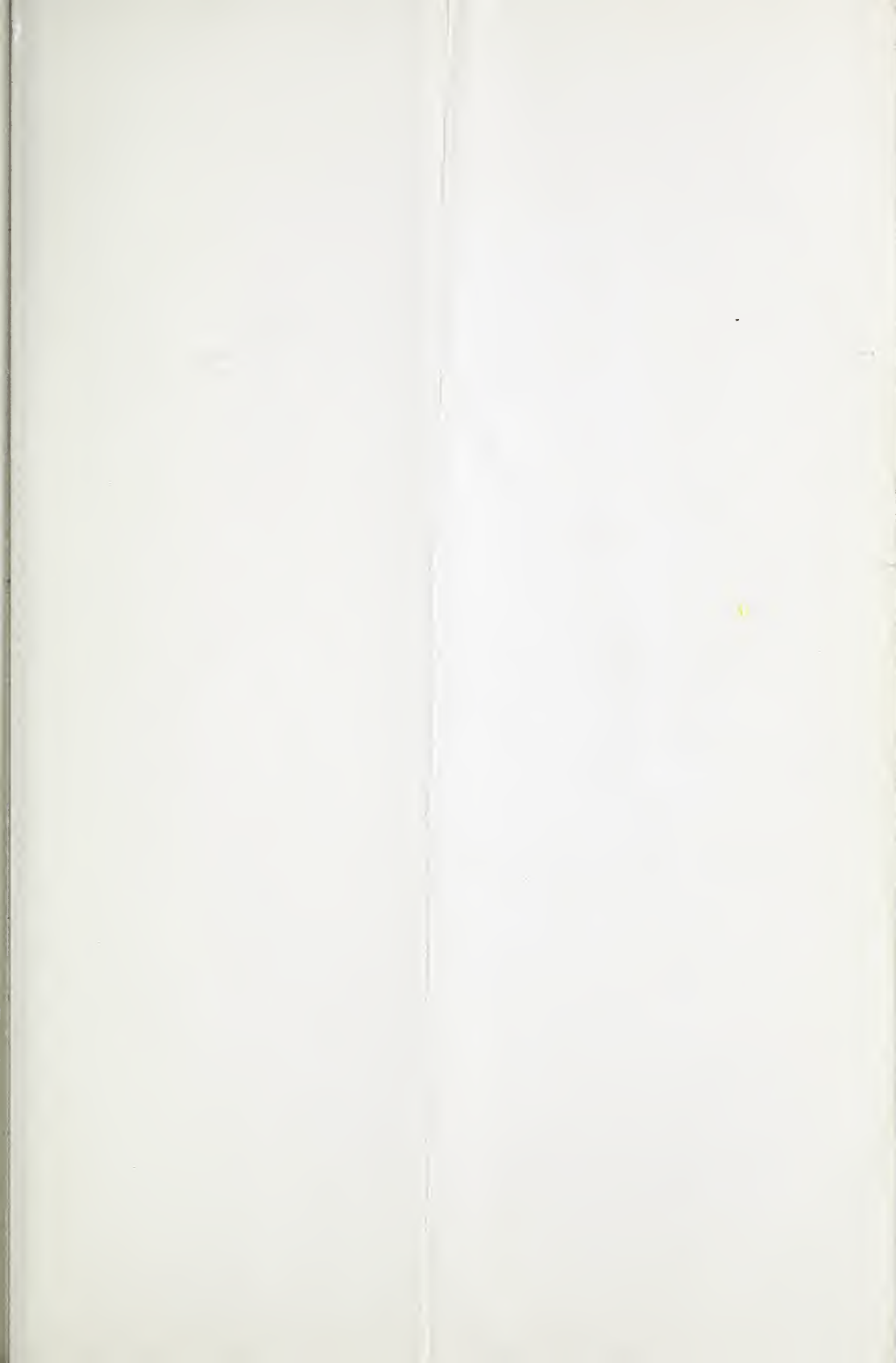
Respectfully submitted,

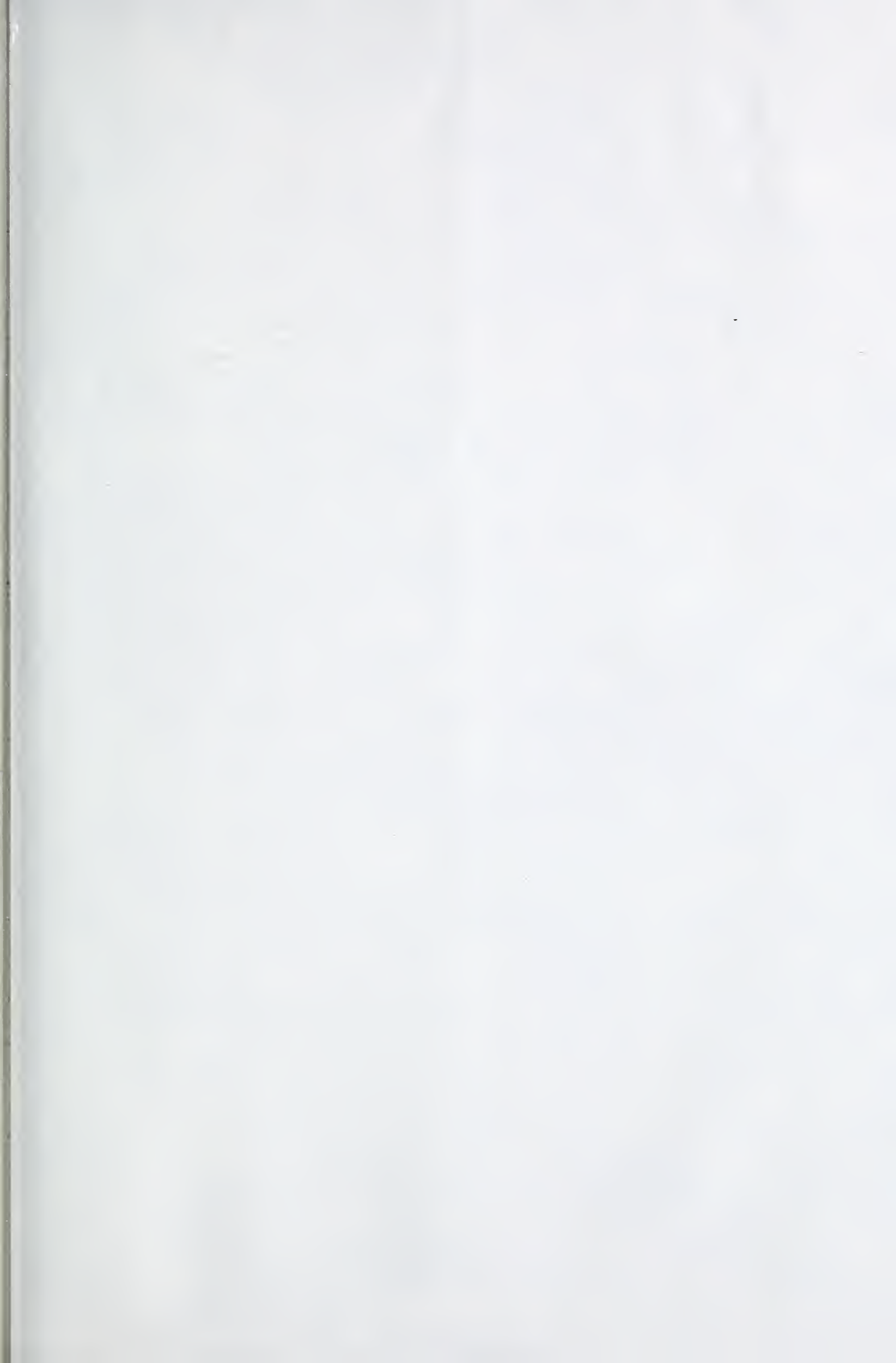
MRS. JOAN DICKINSON,
School Nurse

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11/15/2010

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